MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL #12

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DAZZLER™
THE MOVIE

By
JAMES SHOOTER
FRANK SPRINGER
and
VINCE COLLETTA

A MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL

By
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FRANK SPRINGER
and
VINCE COLLETTA

The entire world now knows Alison Blaire's secret. What happens next will affect every living mutant . . . *forever.*

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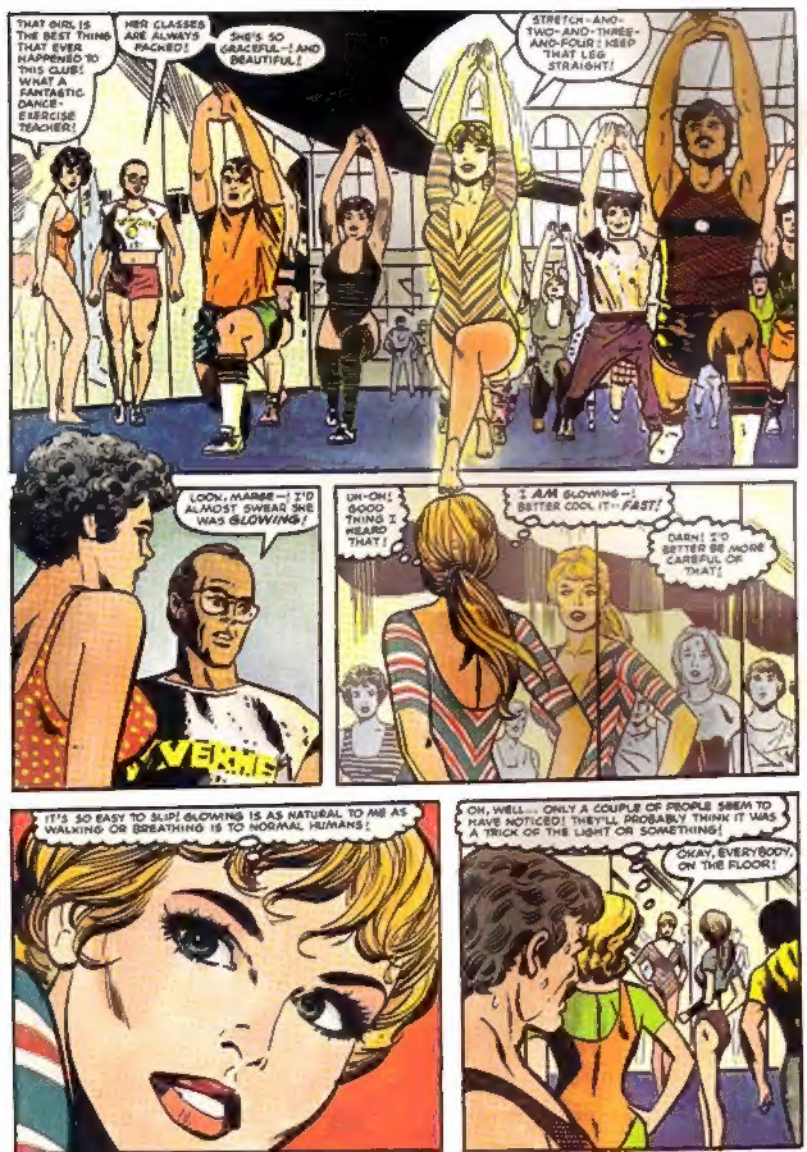
AT THE PRESTIGIOUS LOS ANGELES HEALTH AND RACQUET CLUB, ALISON BLAIRE CONDUCTS THE AFTERNOON DANCE-EXERCISE CLASS...
POINT THOSE TOES!
ONE-AND-TWO-AND-ONE-AND-TWO...

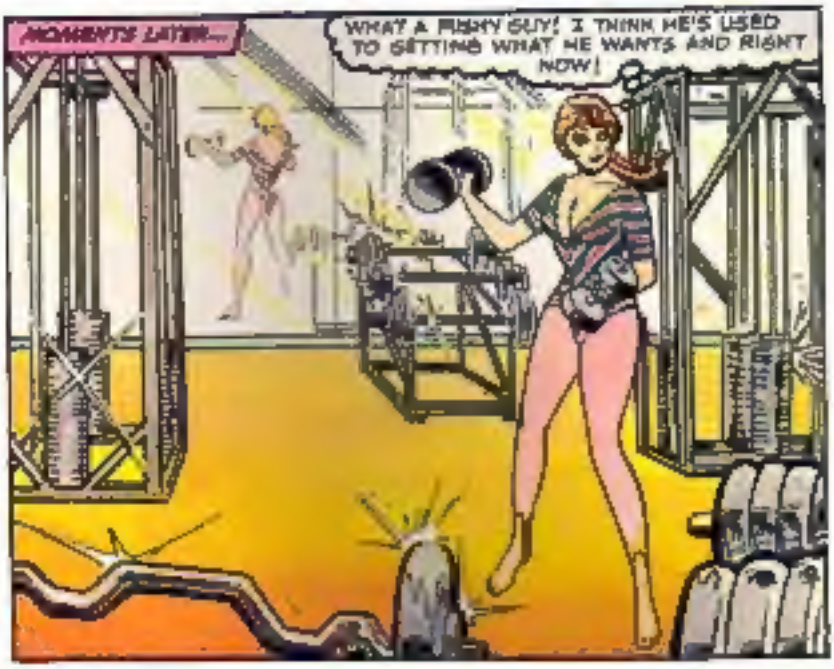

THAT GIRL IS THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO THIS CLUB! WHAT A FANTASTIC DANCE-EXERCISE TEACHER!
HER CLASSES ARE ALWAYS PACKED!
SHE'S SO GRACEFUL--! AND BEAUTIFUL!
STRETCH-AND-TWO-AND-THREE-AND-FOUR! KEEP THAT LEG STRAIGHT!
LOOK, MARBE--! I'D ALMOST SWEAR SHE WAS GLOWING!
VERNE
UH-OH! GOOD THING I HEARD THAT!
I AM GLOWING--! BETTER COOL IT--FAST!
DARN! I'D BETTER BE MORE CAREFUL OF THAT!
IT'S SO EASY TO SLIP! GLOWING IS AS NATURAL TO ME AS WALKING OR BREATHING IS TO NORMAL HUMANS!
OH, WELL... ONLY A COUPLE OF PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE NOTICED! THEY'LL PROBABLY THINK IT WAS A TRICK OF THE LIGHT OR SOMETHING!
OKAY, EVERYBODY, ON THE FLOOR!

PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS INVENTING EXPLANATIONS FOR THINGS THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND! IT'S EASIER TO BELIEVE YOUR EYES ARE PLAYING TRICKS ON YOU THAN IN A GIRL WHO CAN GLOW LIKE A FIREFLY!
KEEP GOING! TWIST AND STRETCH!
SOMETIMES EVEN I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
OKAY, BACK UP! STAY WITH THE MUSIC!
NOW TOUCH THOSE TOES! ONE-AND-TWO-AND...!
EVERY WOMAN HERE WOULD GIVE ANYTHING TO LOOK LIKE HER...
AND EVERY MAN WOULD GIVE ANYTHING TO BE WITH HER!
IF YOU'D SAID THAT ABOUT ANYONE ELSE, MEL, YOU'D BE SLEEPING ON THE COUCH TONIGHT! BUT... I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT I UNDERSTAND... SORT OF...
...ONE-AND-TWO-AND...
PLEASE, GOD, LET IT BE OVER OR JUST LET ME DIE!
YEAH, WE SURRENDER ALREADY!
I FEEL LIKE I'VE USED UP TWELVE BILLION CALORIES! I'LL BE THRILLED WHEN I WEIGH MYSELF... BUT NOW--? OHMM!!
OKAY! THAT'S IT! VERY GOOD! YOU WERE ALL FANTASTIC!
LOOK AT HER! SHE'S FRESH AS A DAISY-- AND WE'RE TOTALLED!
LIFE ISN'T FAIR!!
I'LL FEEL GREAT TOMORROW!!! I'LL FEEL GREAT TOMORROW...

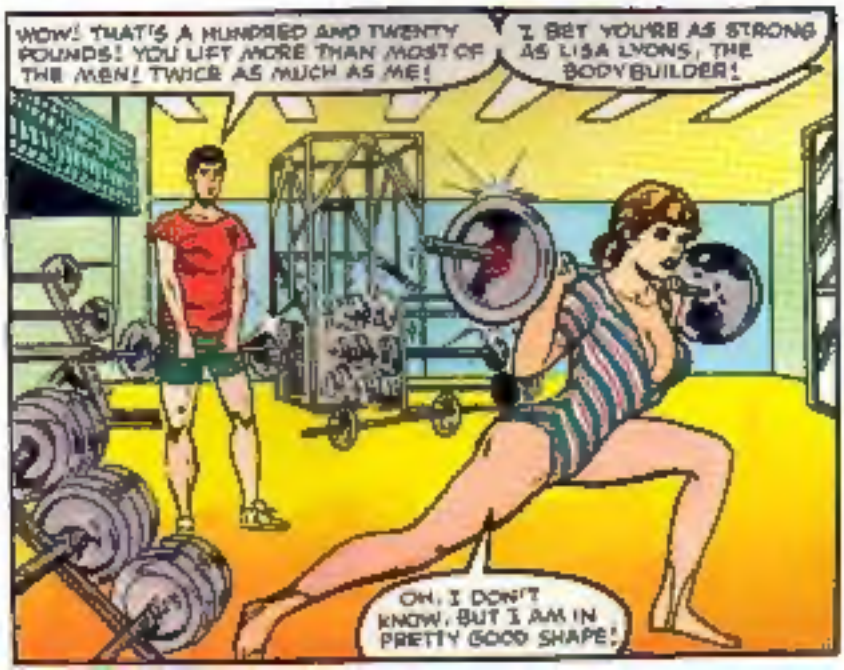
I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN ON THURSDAY! TAKE CARE EVERYBODY!
SHE ISN'T EVEN BREATHING HARD! SHE HARDLY BROKE A SWEAT! SHE CAN'T BE HUMAN!
YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET! KNOW WHAT SHE DOES AFTER THESE CLASSES? SHE LIFTS WEIGHTS!
I CAN HARDLY LIFT MY OWN WEIGHT!

THIS IS MY FIRST CLASS, ALI! I'M IMPRESSED--! YOU'RE INCREDIBLY SEXY!
WELL, THANK YOU! I HOPE YOU LIKED THE CLASS, TOO, MR...
I'M ERIC BEALE! I OWN BEALE PRODUCTIONS!

A GIRL WHO LOOKS LIKE YOU COULD REALLY GO FAR WITH A "FRIEND" LIKE ME BEHIND HER! NOW, I WANT YOU TO GO CHANGE AND MEET ME IN THE LOBBY IN TEN.
OH, I'M SORRY, REALLY! BUT I CAN'T!
NONSENSE! MY LIMO'S WAITING OUTSIDE!
THANKS ANYWAY, MR. BEALE, BUT REALLY, I CAN'T! IT-IT'S AGAINST CLUB RULES FOR EMPLOYEES TO SOCIALIZE WITH MEMBERS! SEE YOU NEXT CLASS, OKAY?


MOMENTS LATER...
WHAT A FISHY GUY! I THINK HE'S USED TO GETTING WHAT HE WANTS AND RIGHT NOW!

I HOPE I WASN'T TOO COLD TO HIM! I DON'T LIKE HURTING ANYBODY'S FEELINGS -- EVEN SOMEONE LIKE HIM!

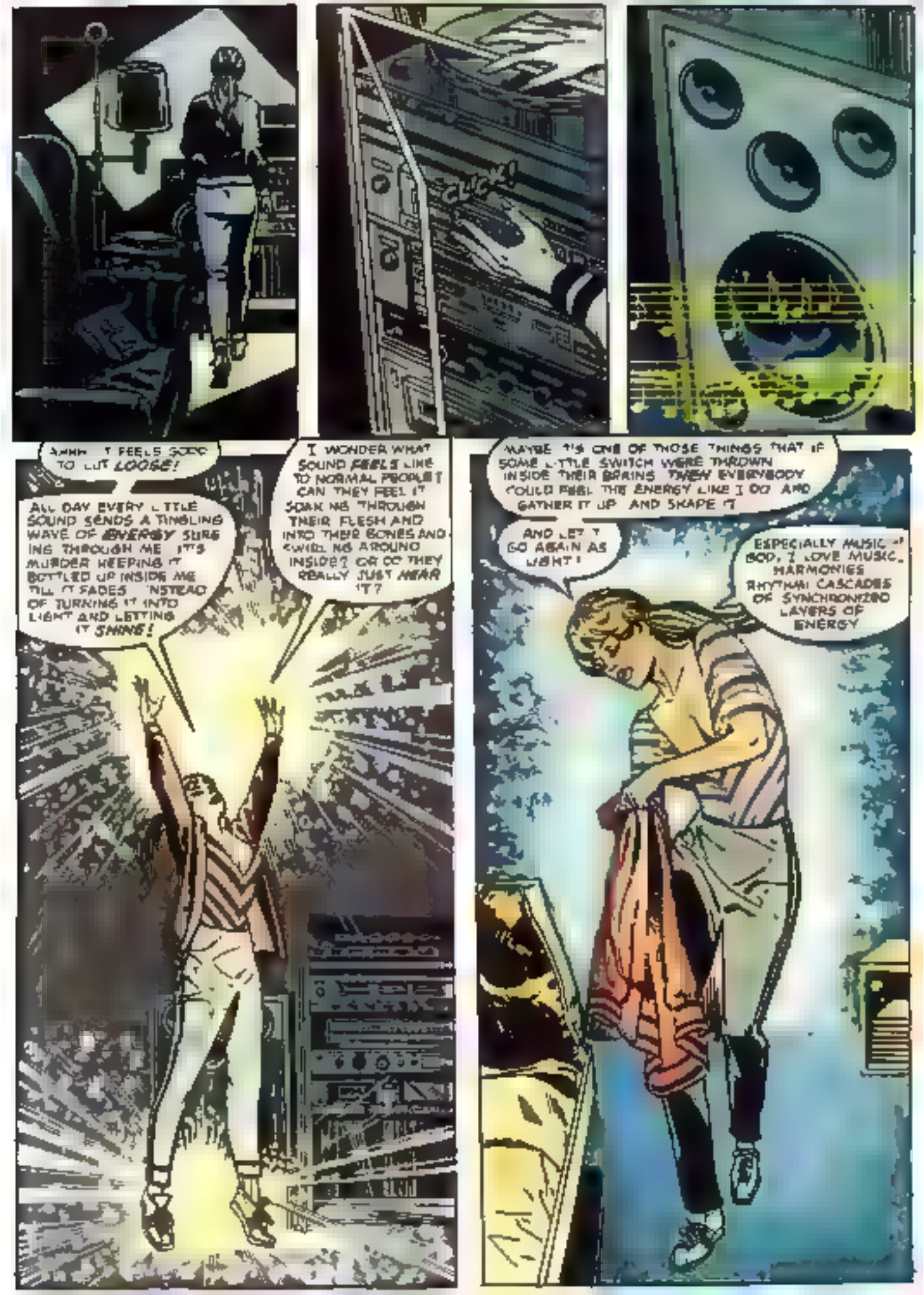

WOW! THAT'S A HUNDRED AND TWENTY POUNDS! YOU LIFT MORE THAN MOST OF THE MEN! TWICE AS MUCH AS ME!
I BET YOU'RE AS STRONG AS LISA LYONS, THE BODYBUILDER!
OH, I DON'T KNOW, BUT I AM IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE!

I WORKED MY WAY UP SLOWLY--IT TAKES A LONG TIME! MY NAME'S ALI, BY THE WAY! WHAT'S YOURS?
FREDDY!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, FREDDY!
REALLY? I JOINED THIS CLUB TO MEET PEOPLE... BUT I HAVEN'T DONE TOO WELL SO FAR!
I DON'T MAKE FRIENDS VERY EASILY...
A LOT OF MEN ARE SHY, FREDDY! DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL GET OVER IT!
I--I'VE TRIED TALKING TO A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE, BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO ANSWERED! THERE ARE A LOT OF SNOBS AROUND THIS PLACE! IF YOU AREN'T AS RICH OR IMPORTANT AS THEY ARE, FORGET IT!
I KNOW, FREDDY, BUT I TRY TO FOCUS ON PEOPLE'S GOOD POINTS, YOU KNOW?
ALI, UM... C-COULD I MAYBE TREAT YOU TO A CARROT JUICE AT THE HEALTH BAR UPSTAIRS, AND MAYBE, YOU KNOW, JUST TALK SOME MORE?
NO! NO! FORGET I SAID THAT! OF COURSE YOU'RE BUSY! I HOPE I DIDN'T SPOIL EVERYTHING!
!IT'S JUST, I'M ENJOYING TALKING TO YOU SO MUCH-- HEY!
ALI, I HAVE SOME NEWS FOR YOU! GO AHEAD, WITWICKY, TELL HER!
UH, MISS BLAIRE, MR. BEALE HERE JUST BOUGHT THE CLUB!
HE-- DID?!
RIGHT! NOW I MAKE THE RULES! SO IF YOU'LL JOIN ME FOR DINNER TONIGHT, ALI, WE CAN DISCUSS YOUR PROMOTION! YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE NEW ASSISTANT MANAGER HERE!
WHAT? MR BEALE, I...
ALSO, I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU SING A LITTLE! I CAN INTRODUCE YOU TO THE "RIGHT" PEOPLE... AND HELP YOU ALONG!

SO PUT THAT THING DOWN, AND GET DRESSED! I'M A BUSY MAN!
I BET! BUT, MR. BEALE--
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T MAKE IT! FREDDY HAS ALREADY ASKED ME OUT FOR A CARROT JUICE...
SO IF YOU'D PLEASE HOLD THIS...
WHAT--?
YEAHHH!!
OOPS! I GUESS HE WASN'T READY FOR IT! OH WELL, COME ON FRED!
O-OKAY!
MR. BEALE, SIR, I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! I'LL FIRE HER, OF COURSE!
FASCINATING... SIMPLY FASCINATING...
MOMENTS LATER, OUTSIDE...
I GUESS YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, NOW! I'M SORRY IF IT WAS MY FAULT!
IT WASN'T! THANKS FOR OFFERING ME A LIFT HOME!
AEROBICS
SOON...
...BUT THERE ARE LOTS OF NICE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, FREDDY! DON'T GIVE UP!
I GUESS IT'S ME, THEN! I'M JUST... A NERD!
WHY DO YOU HAVE SUCH A LOW OPINION OF YOURSELF, FRED? I THINK YOU'RE VERY NICE -- AND BETTER THAN TEN ERIC BEALES! ANY WOMAN COULD SEE THAT!
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO? HONEST?

BUT, ALI, HE OFFERED YOU ANYTHING--EVERYTHING! ALL YOUR DREAMS!
I WANT TO BE A STAR--MORE THAN ANYTHING! BUT I WANT TO MAKE IT BECAUSE I DESERVE TO!
THEN, MAYBE SOMEDAY, ONCE I'VE FULFILLED MY DREAMS, I'LL FIND SOMEONE... A GOOD MAN... SOMEONE SPECIAL TO SETTLE DOWN WITH! NOT AN ERIC BEALE!
I--I HOPE IT ALL WORKS OUT FOR YOU, ALI! I KNOW IT WILL!
THANKS, FRED! I'M SURE THINGS WILL WORK OUT FOR YOU, TOO!
YOU KNOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I ALMOST BELIEVE THAT! IN FACT, I FEEL LIKE A MILLION--THANKS TO YOU! YOU'RE AMAZING, ALI!
BELIEVING IN YOURSELF IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD ANYTHING! YOU'VE GOT TO BE ABLE TO LOOK AT YOURSELF IN THE MIRROR AND HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE PERSON LOOKING BACK!
MINUTES LATER...
THERE IT IS... THE HOUSE WITH THE OUTSIDE STAIRCASE!
OKAY...
THANKS AGAIN, FRED, FOR...
NO! THANK YOU, ALI... FOR MAKING ME FEEL LIKE I'M WORTH SOMETHING! I'M GOING TO START BELIEVING IN MYSELF--LIKE YOU SAID!
WELL, IT THAT CASE, LET ME BE THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE THE NEW FRED--A VERY NICE, CHARMING, HANDSOME... AND CONFIDENT MAN!
OH, WOW...

I GUESS I'LL BE SEEING YOUR NAME UP IN LIGHTS SOON!
SURE... OH, AND BY THE WAY...
--YOU'RE A GREAT KISSER! SEEYA!
I AM?
I MEAN... I AM!!
VROOM!
WOW...
..OH I BELIEVE IN YOU... FRED STANACHEK! I BELIEVE IN YOU!
MEANWHILE...
BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE...
..AND BOY, IS IT HUMBLE!
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!


CLIC!
AHHH... I FEELS SOOO TO LET LOOSE!
ALL DAY EVERY LITTLE SOUND SENDS A TINGLING WAVE OF ENERGY SURGING THROUGH ME... IT'S MURDER KEEPING IT BOTTLED UP INSIDE ME TILL IT FADES... INSTEAD OF TURNING IT INTO LIGHT AND LETTING IT SHINE!
I WONDER WHAT SOUND FEELS LIKE TO NORMAL PEOPLE? IT CAN THEY FEEL IT SOAKING THROUGH THEIR FLESH AND INTO THEIR BONES AND SWIRLING AROUND INSIDE? OR DO THEY REALLY JUST HEAR IT?
MAYBE IT'S ONE OF THOSE THINGS THAT IF SOME LITTLE SWITCH WERE THROWN INSIDE THEIR BRAINS THEY EVERYBODY COULD FEEL THE ENERGY LIKE I DO AND GATHER IT UP AND SHAPE IT
AND LET IT GO AGAIN AS LIGHT!
ESPECIALLY MUSIC! GOD, I LOVE MUSIC. HARMONIES RHYTHMS CASCADES OF SYNCHRONIZED LAYERS OF ENERGY

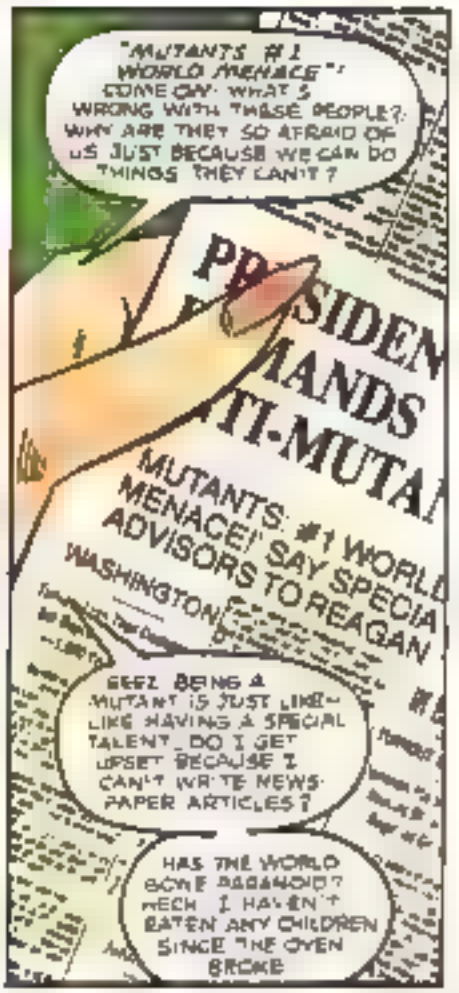
IF OTHER PEOPLE REALLY CAN'T FEEL SOUNDS THE WAY I DO I FEEL SORRY FOR THEM
I GUESS IT MUST BE AT LEAST A LITTLE DIFFERENT FOR NORMAL HUMANS I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS A KID I USED TO GET BLANK STARES FROM EVERYBODY WHEN I TALKED ABOUT MUSIC
AS IF I WERE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING TOTALLY STRANGE TO THEM THEY THOUGHT I WAS WEIRD

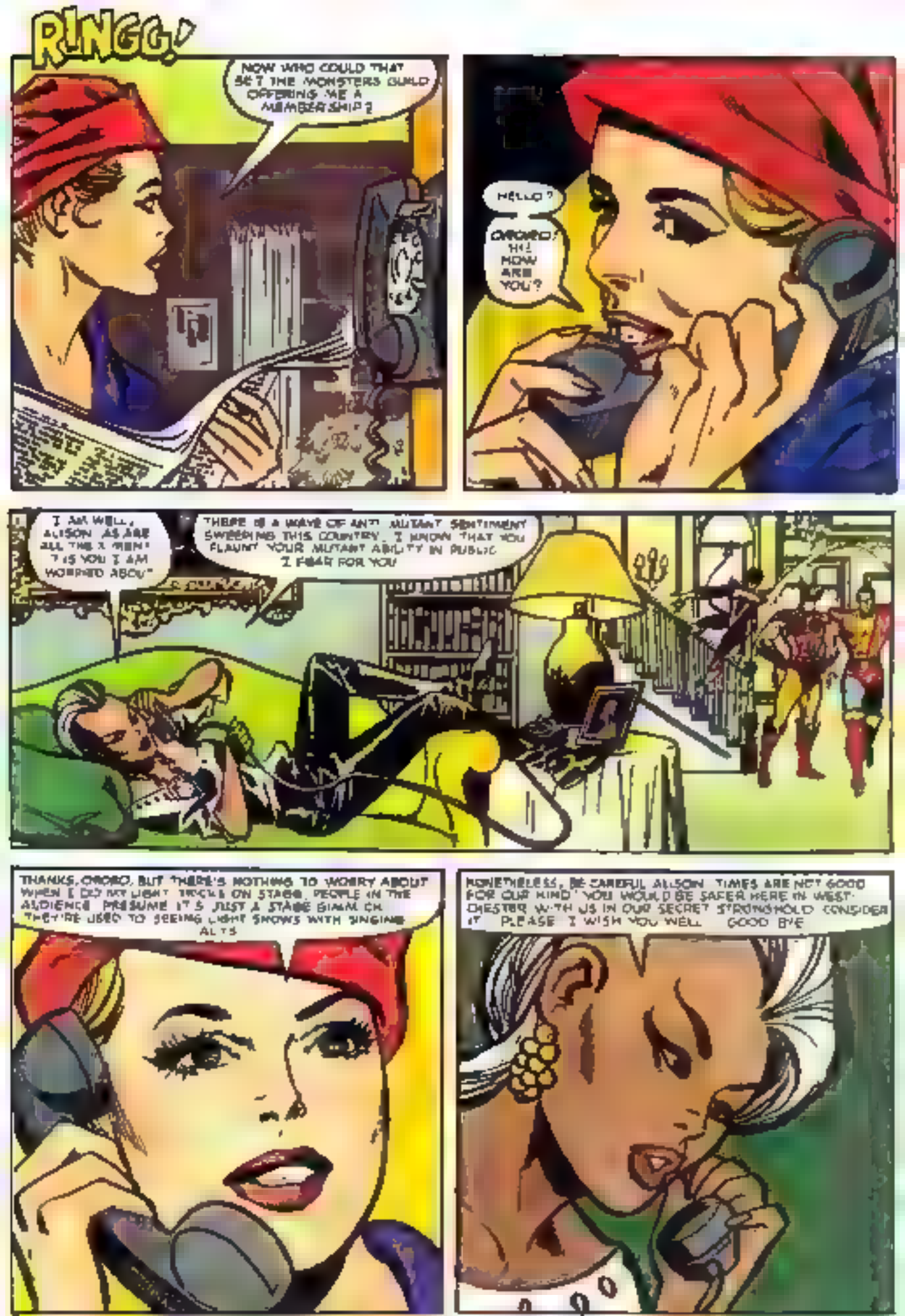
AND SO DID I ESPECIALLY WHEN I WAS FIFTEEN AND FOUND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT MYSELF
OTHER GIRLS JUST HAD TO WORRY ABOUT PIMPLES - I HAD TO WORRY ABOUT GOING OFF LIKE A FLASH BULB AT PEP RALLIES BOY!
THEN I WOULD'VE GIVEN ANYTHING TO BE NORMAL, NOW I'M GLAD I'M ME I WOULDN'T TRADE WITH ANYBODY

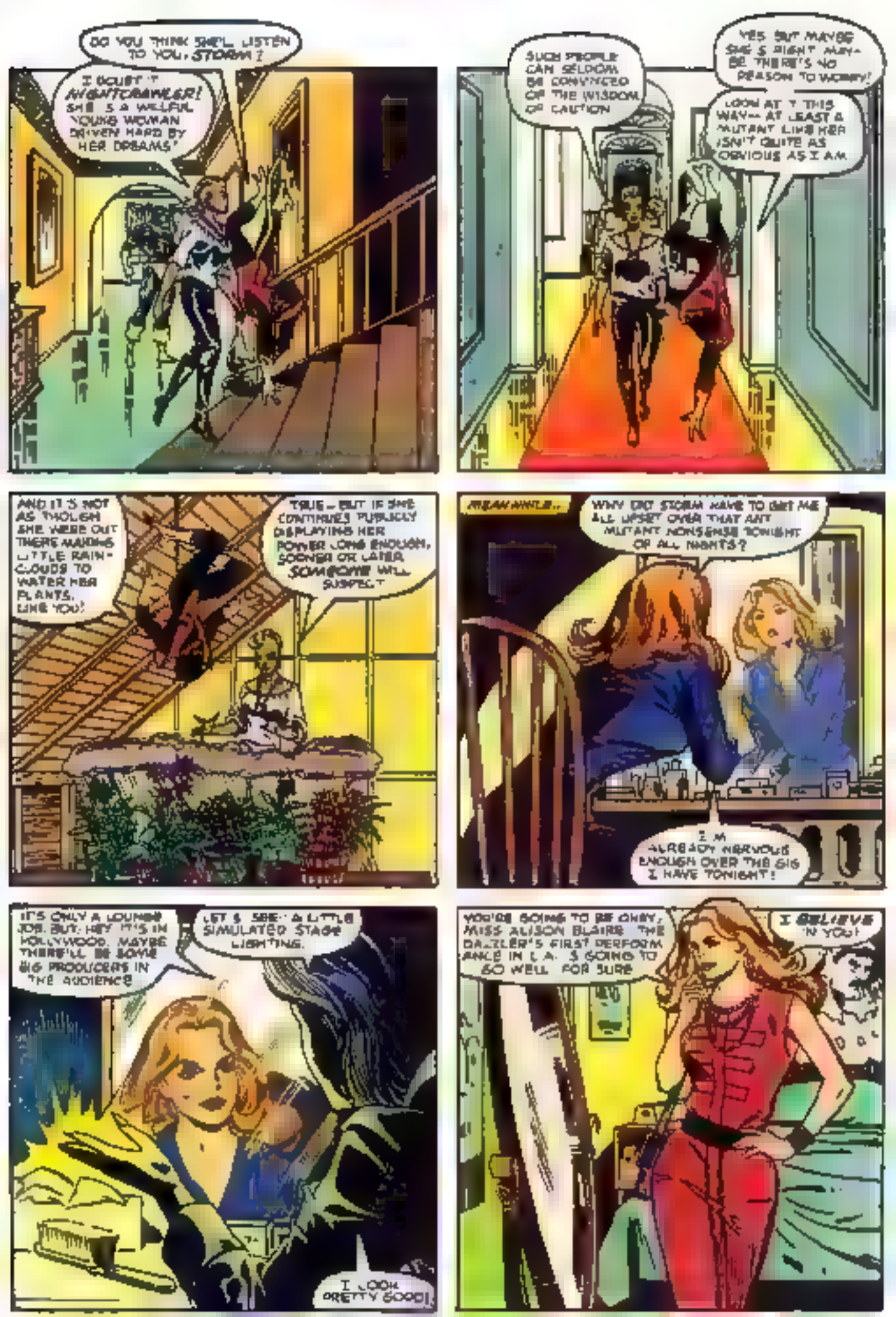
HELLO THERE. MY WE'RE LOOKING ALL AGLOW TODAY
AND WOULD WE CARE FOR A NICE HOT BATH NOW? WHY YES, I BELIEVE WE WOULD

SHORTLY
I WONDER IF OTHER BUDDING STARLETS EAT OLD SPAGHETTI AND ASPERAGUS RIGHT OUT OF THE CAN IN MAY!
HMM

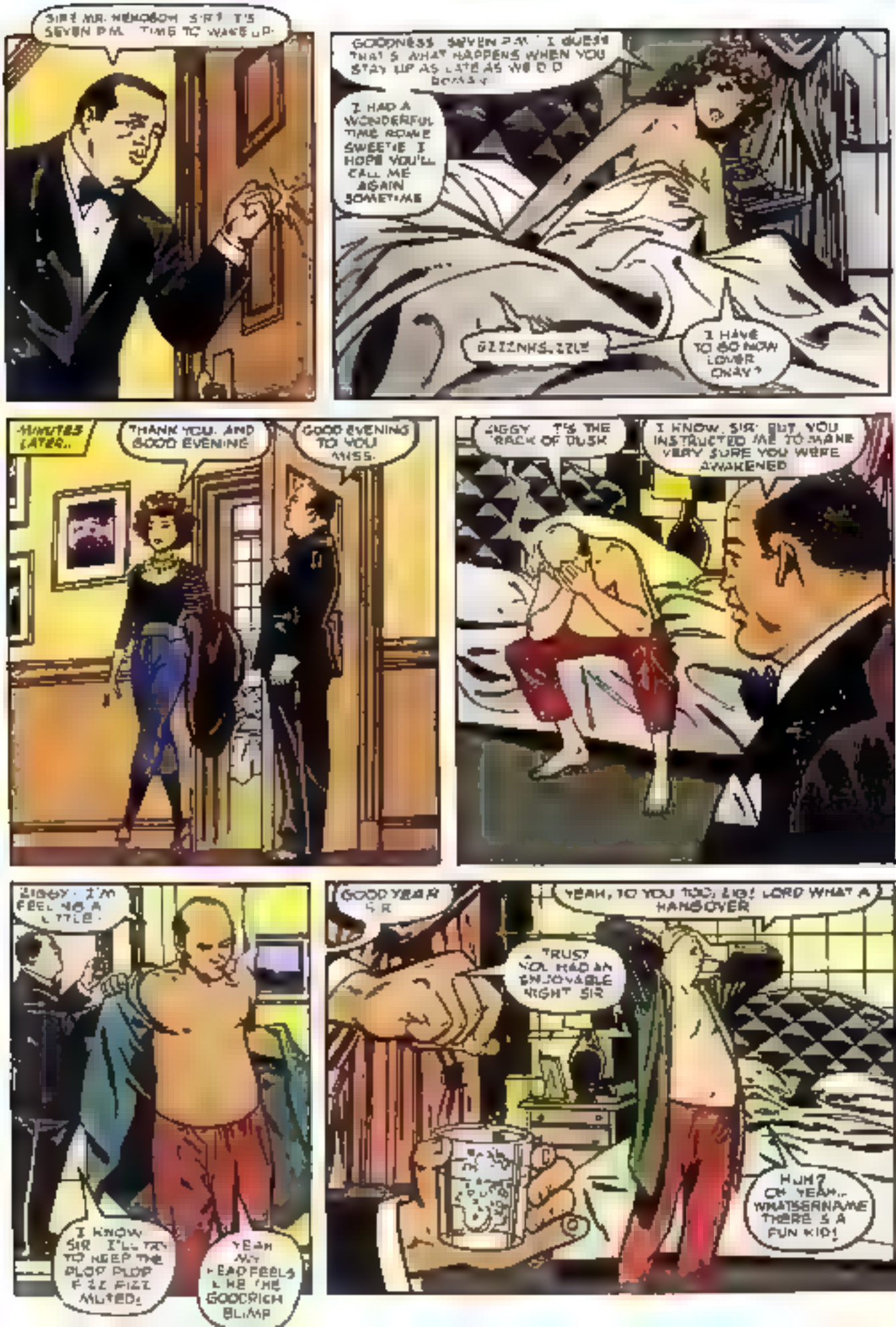
NOW ISN'T THIS INTERESTING A WHOLE BARRAGE OF ARTICLES ON MUTANTS.

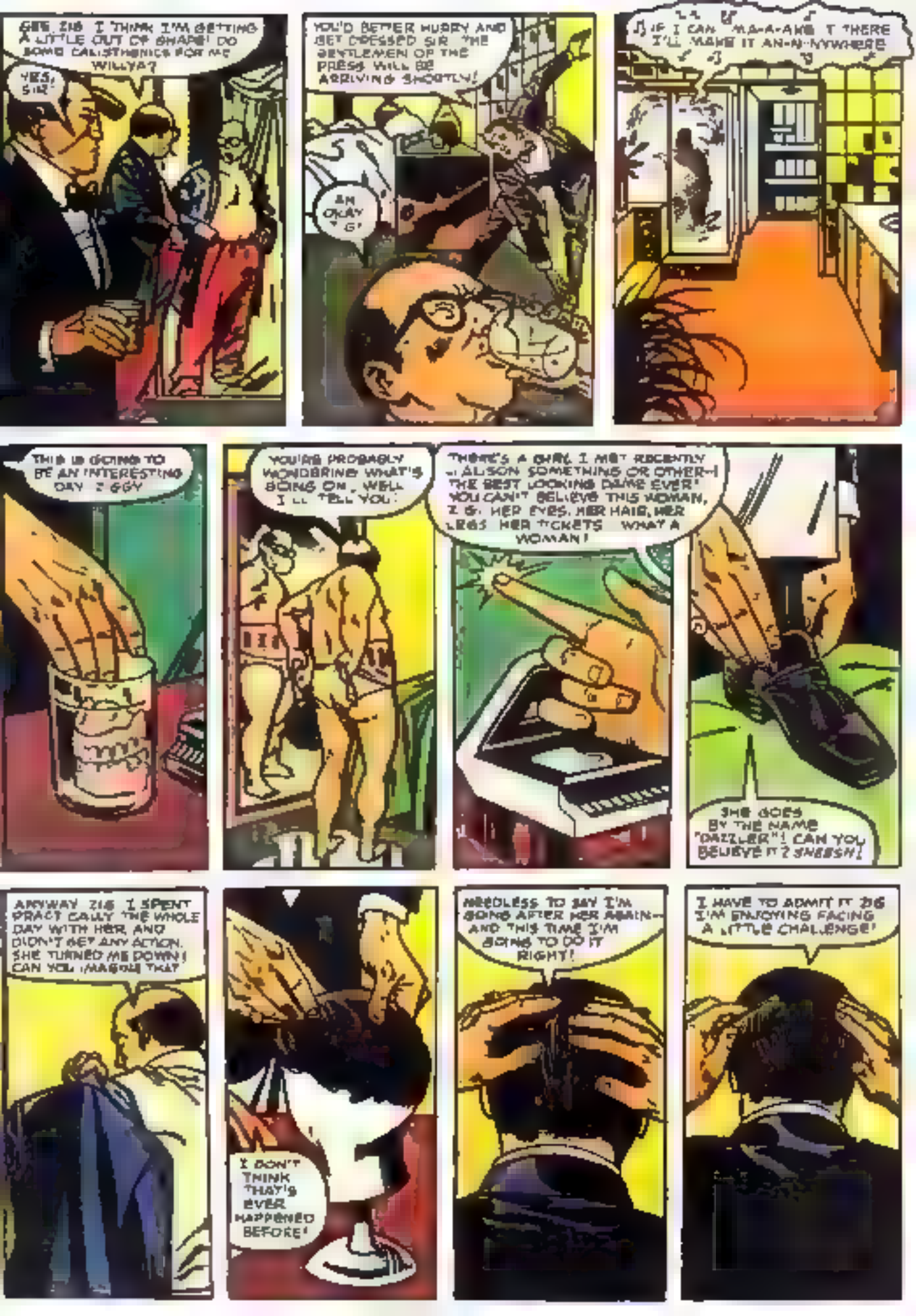

"MUTANTS #1 WORLD MENACE"! COME ON! WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE PEOPLE? WHY ARE THEY SO AFRAID OF US JUST BECAUSE WE CAN DO THINGS THEY CAN'T?
PRESIDEN
MANDS
TI-MUTA
MUTANTS: #1 WORLD MENACE! SAY SPECIA ADVISORS TO REAGAN
WASHINGTON
GEEZ BEING A MUTANT IS JUST LIKE- LIKE HAVING A SPECIAL TALENT. DO I GET UPSET BECAUSE I CAN'T WRITE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES?
HAS THE WORLD GONE BERSERK? HECH I HAVEN'T EATEN ANY CHILDREN SINCE THE OVEN BROKE

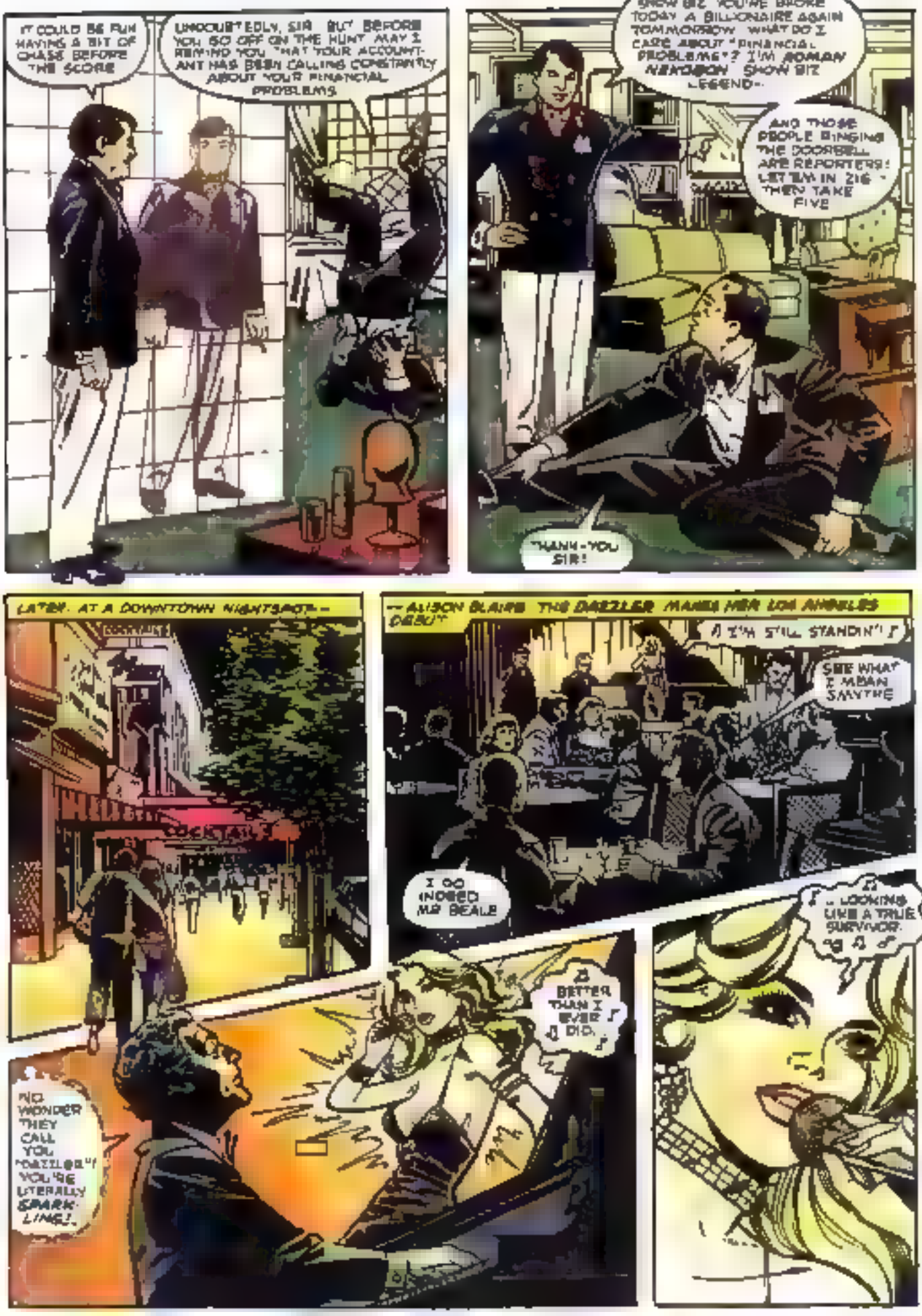

RINGG!
NOW WHO COULD THAT BE? THE MONSTERS GUILD OFFERING ME A MEMBERSHIP?
HELLO?
ORORO! HI! HOW ARE YOU?
I AM WELL, ALISON AS ARE ALL THE X MEN! 'TIS YOU I AM WORRIED ABOU"
THERE IS A WAVE OF ANTI MUTANT SENTIMENT SWEEPING THIS COUNTRY. I KNOW THAT YOU FLAUNT YOUR MUTANT ABILITY IN PUBLIC I FEAR FOR YOU
THANKS, ORORO, BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT WHEN I DO MY LIGHT TRICKS ON STAGE. PEOPLE IN THE AUDIENCE PRESUME IT'S JUST A STAGE BEAM OR THEY'RE USED TO SEEING LIGHT SHOWS WITH SINGING ACTS
NONETHELESS, BE CAREFUL ALISON TIMES ARE NOT GOOD FOR OUR KIND YOU WOULD BE SAFER HERE IN WESTCHESTER WITH US IN OUR SECRET STRONGHOLD CONSIDER IT PLEASE I WISH YOU WELL GOOD BYE


DO YOU THINK SHE'LL LISTEN TO YOU, STORM?
I DOUBT IT NIGHTCRAWLER! SHE'S A WILLFUL YOUNG WOMAN DRIVEN HARD BY HER DREAMS!
SUCH PEOPLE CAN SELDOM BE CONVINCED OF THE WISDOM OF CAUTION
YES BUT MAYBE SHE'S RIGHT MAYBE THERE'S NO REASON TO WORRY!
LOOK AT IT THIS WAY-- AT LEAST A MUTANT LIKE HER ISN'T QUITE AS OBVIOUS AS I AM.
AND IT'S NOT AS THOUGH SHE WERE OUT THERE MAKING LITTLE RAIN-CLOUDS TO WATER HER PLANTS, LIKE YOU!
TRUE-- BUT IF SHE CONTINUES PUBLICLY DISPLAYING HER POWER LONG ENOUGH, SOONER OR LATER SOMEONE WILL SUSPECT
MEANWHILE...
WHY DID STORM HAVE TO GET ME ALL UPSET OVER THAT ANTI MUTANT NONSENSE TONIGHT OF ALL NIGHTS?
I'M ALREADY NERVOUS ENOUGH OVER THE GIG I HAVE TONIGHT!
IT'S ONLY A LOUNGE JOB, BUT HEY IT'S IN HOLLYWOOD. MAYBE THERE'LL BE SOME BIG PRODUCERS IN THE AUDIENCE!
LET'S SEE-- A LITTLE SIMULATED STAGE LIGHTING.
I LOOK PRETTY GOOD!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY, MISS ALISON BLAIRE THE DAZZLER'S FIRST PERFORMANCE IN L.A. IS GOING TO GO WELL FOR SURE
I BELIEVE IN YOU!

MEANWHILE, IN BEVERLY HILLS
RAP! RAP! RAP!


SIR! MR. HEMLOCK SIR! IT'S SEVEN P.M. TIME TO WAKE UP.
GOODNESS SEVEN P.M.! I GUESS THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU STAY UP AS LATE AS WE DID LAST NIGHT.
I HAD A WONDERFUL TIME ROMEO SWEETIE I HOPE YOU'LL CALL ME AGAIN SOMETIME
I HAVE TO GO NOW LOVER OKAY?
MINUTES LATER..
THANK YOU. AND GOOD EVENING!
GOOD EVENING TO YOU MISS.
ZIGGY IT'S THE CRACK OF DUSK
I KNOW, SIR. BUT YOU INSTRUCTED ME TO MAKE VERY SURE YOU WERE AWAKENED
ZIGGY I'M FEELING A LITTLE
I KNOW SIR I'LL TRY TO KEEP THE PLOP PLOP FIZZ FIZZ MUTED.
YEAH MY HEAD FEELS LIKE THE GOODRICH BLIMP
GOOD YEAR SIR
YEAH, TO YOU TOO, BIG! LORD WHAT A HANGOVER
TRUST YOU HAD AN ENJOYABLE NIGHT SIR
HUH? OH YEAH... WHATSERNAME THERE'S A FUN KID!


GEE, ZIG I THINK I'M GETTING A LITTLE OUT OF SHAPE! DO SOME CALISTHENICS FOR ME WILLYA?
YES, SIR!
YOU'D BETTER HURRY AND GET DRESSED SIR THE GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS WILL BE ARRIVING SHORTLY!
AN OKAY 'G'
♫ IF I CAN MA-A-AKE IT THERE I'LL MAKE IT AN-N-NYWHERE ♫
THIS IS GOING TO BE AN INTERESTING DAY ZIGGY
YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING WHAT'S GOING ON. WELL I'LL TELL YOU.
THERE'S A GIRL I MET RECENTLY -- ALISON SOMETHING OR OTHER-- THE BEST LOOKING DAME EVER! YOU CAN'T BELIEVE THIS WOMAN, ZIG. HER EYES, HER HAIR, HER LEGS HER TICKETS WHAT A WOMAN!
SHE GOES BY THE NAME "DAZZLER"! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? SHEESH!
ANYWAY ZIG I SPENT PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE DAY WITH HER AND DIDN'T GET ANY ACTION. SHE TURNED ME DOWN! CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT
I DON'T THINK THAT'S EVER HAPPENED BEFORE!
NEEDLESS TO SAY I'M GOING AFTER HER AGAIN-- AND THIS TIME I'M GOING TO DO IT RIGHT!
I HAVE TO ADMIT IT ZIG I'M ENJOYING FACING A LITTLE CHALLENGE!


IT COULD BE FUN HAVING A BIT OF CHASE BEFORE THE SCORE
UNDOUBTEDLY, SIR BUT BEFORE YOU GO OFF ON THE HUNT MAY I REMIND YOU THAT YOUR ACCOUNTANT HAS BEEN CALLING CONSTANTLY ABOUT YOUR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS
DETAILS ZIG. IN SHOW BIZ YOU'RE BROKE TODAY A BILLIONAIRE AGAIN TOMORROW WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT "FINANCIAL PROBLEMS"? I'M ROMAN NEKOMOON SHOW BIZ LEGEND--
AND THOSE PEOPLE RINGING THE DOORBELL ARE REPORTERS! LET 'EM IN ZIG - THEN TAKE FIVE
"THANK-YOU SIR!
LATER. AT A DOWNTOWN NIGHTSPOT--
--ALISON BLAIRE THE DAZZLER MAKES HER LOS ANGELES DEBUT"
♫ I'M STILL STANDIN' ♪
SEE WHAT I MEAN SMYTHE
I DO INDEED MR BEALE
♫ BETTER THAN I EVER ♪ ♫ DID. ♪
NO WONDER THEY CALL YOU "DAZZLER"! YOU'RE LITERALLY SPARKLING!
♫ ♫ .. LOOKING LIKE A TRUE SURVIVOR. ♫ ♫

I'M STILL STANDIN
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
THANK YOU THANK YOU!
SHE'S FABULOUS!
ABSOLUTELY STUNNING. ENTRANCING SMYTHE.
SHE'S ALL YOU SAID - AND SHE HAS A FANTASTIC VOICE TOO! HOW DOES SHE MAKE THAT THAT SPARKLING?!
I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THAT MYSELF
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN CLAUDE RUBIO ON PIANO
HOW DO YOU DO THAT?
TRADE SECRET! 'TIS JUST A LITTLE STAGE MAGIC! I DO IT WITH A GADGET!
AND I AM THE DAZZLER!
THANK YOU THANK YOU!
GREAT GIMMICK! REALLY SPICES UP THE ACT.
SUDDENLY...
WHAT- WHAT'S ALL THIS?!
THERE SHE S.
KLIK!
KLIK!
KLIK!
SMILE M SS BLA QE

COME ON, MISS BLAIRE. DON'T PLAY GAMES
ROMAN NEWBOCH ANNOUNCED THIS EVENING THAT YOU'RE GOING TO CO-STAR WITH HIM IN HIS UPCOMING MOVIE
HE DID?!
M- SHE SHES- OING ERY- JOY
EXCEPT HER. SHE DOESN'T EVEN BLINK
ARE YOU AWARE OF THE RUMORS OF NEWBOCH'S MONEY TROUBLES?
HAVE YOU DONE OTHER FILMS & TOLD HIM YOU WERE A PORN STAR?
IS ROMAN AS GOD IN BED AS HIS LEG WOULD INDICATE
NO MENT ONY USE E!
SE! IS SING
WHAT SHE ASHED CURIOUSLY IN BLOODY HELL WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? WHAT'S ROMAN UP TO? WHAT'S HE DOING?
I'VE GOT A FEELING I'D BETTER SNEAK OUT THE BACK WAY.
THEY'RE ME NOV THE
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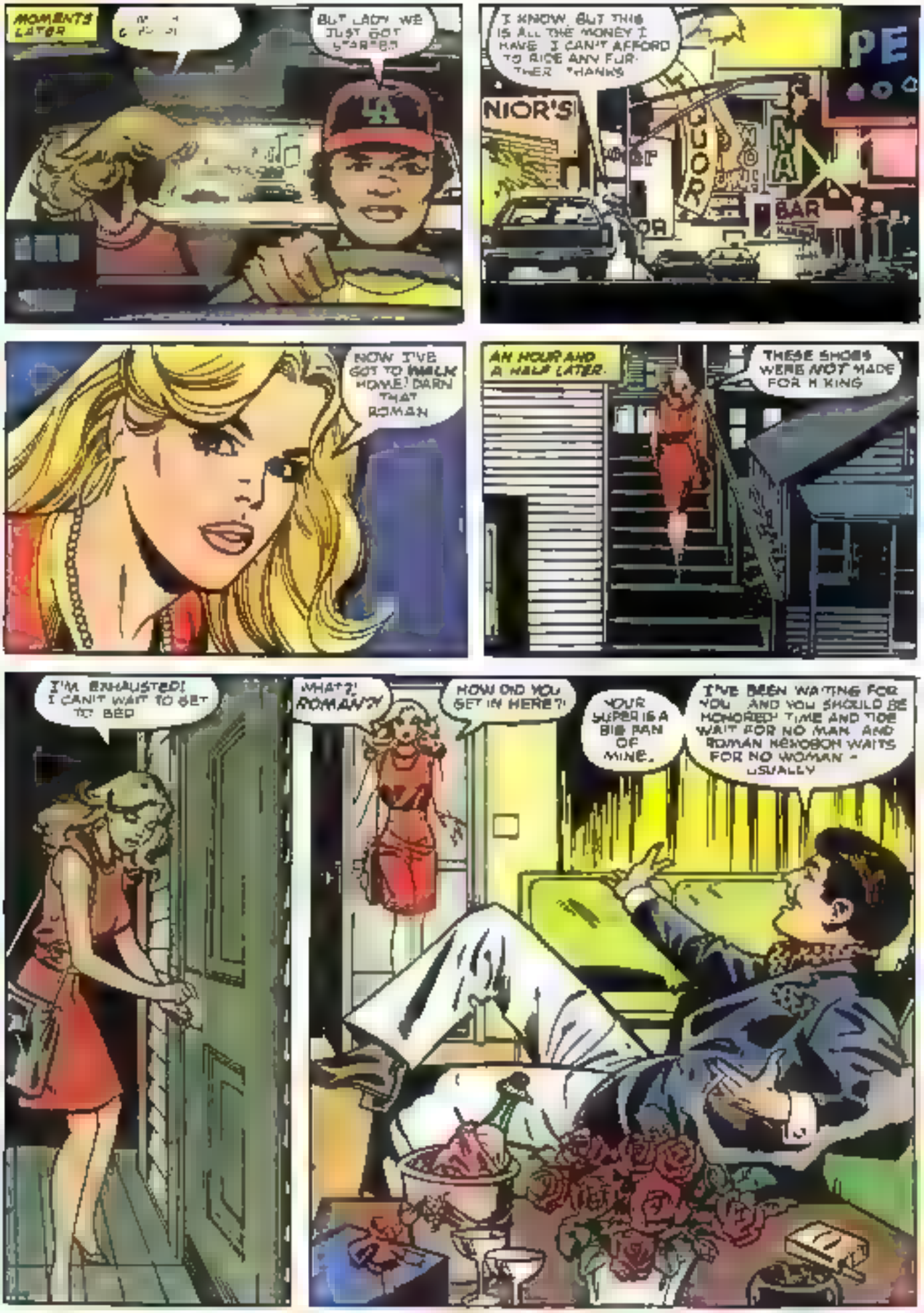
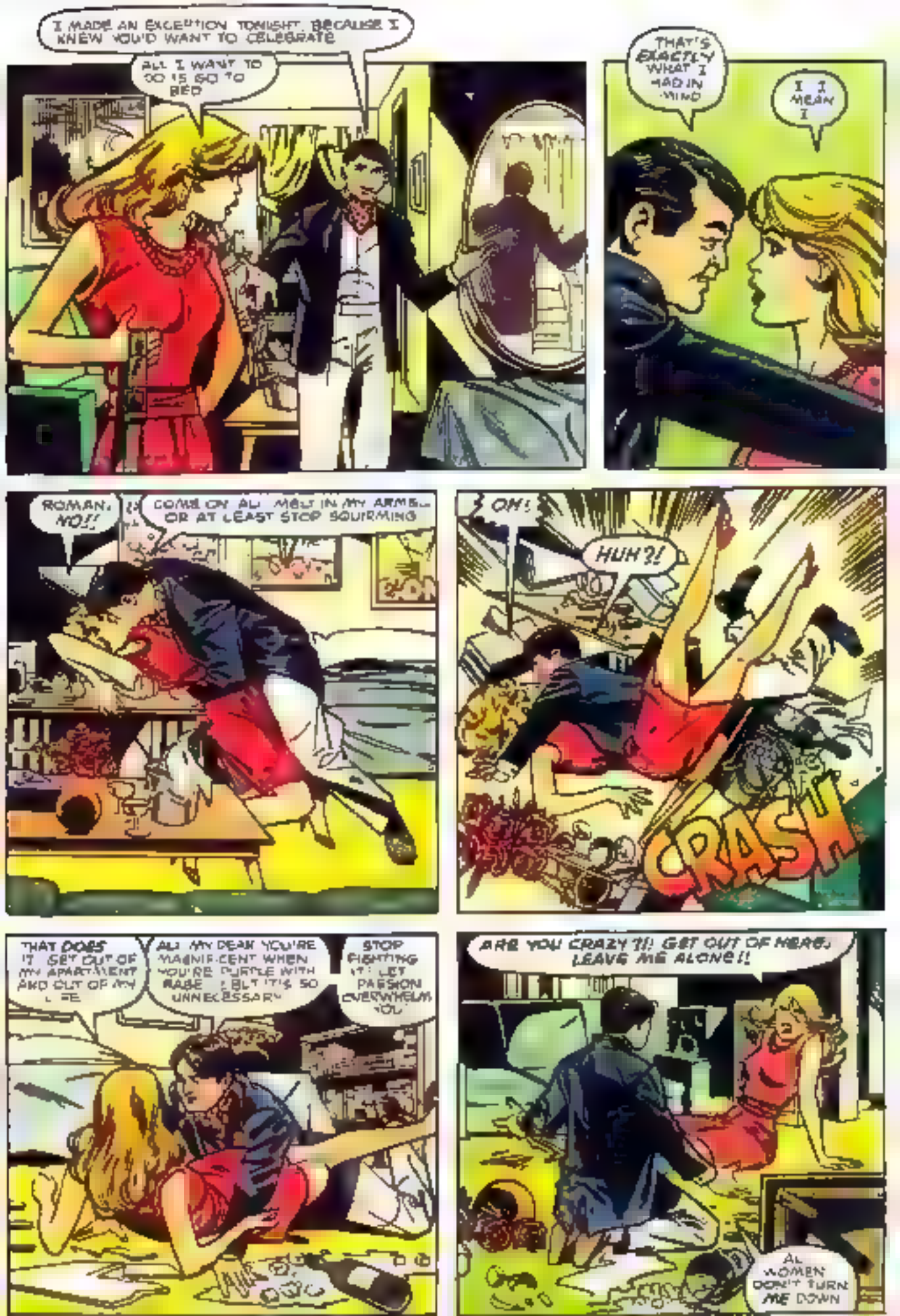
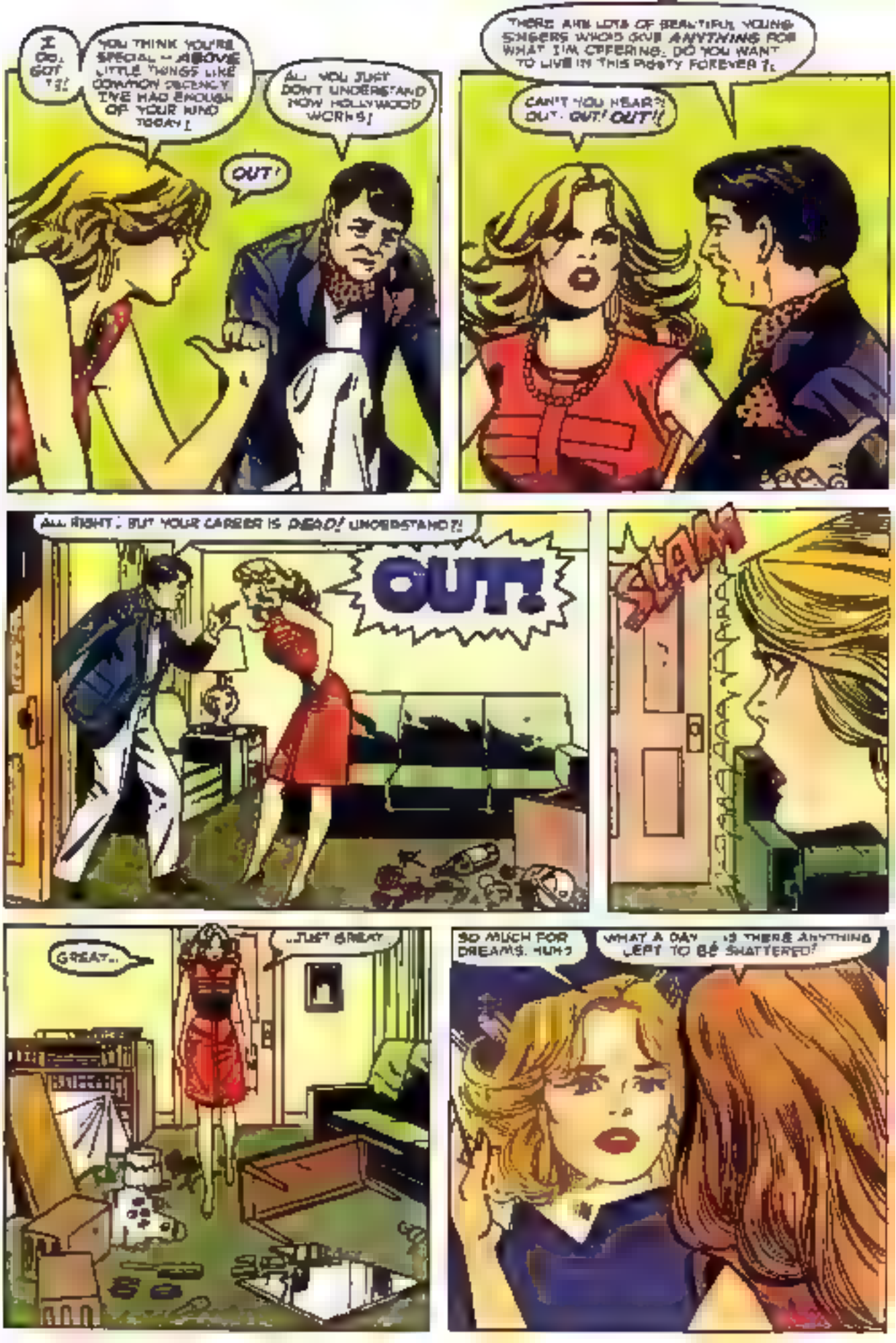
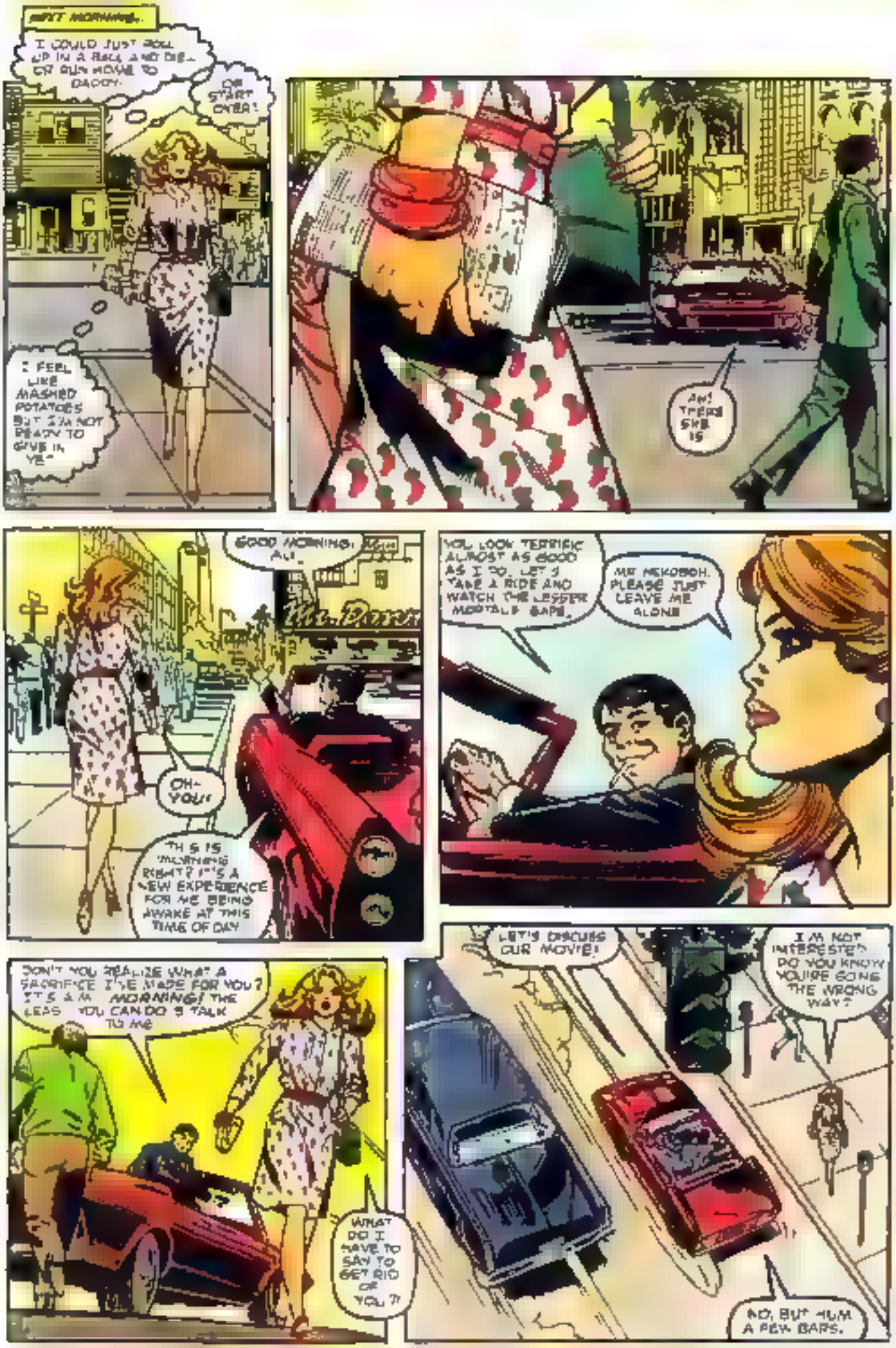
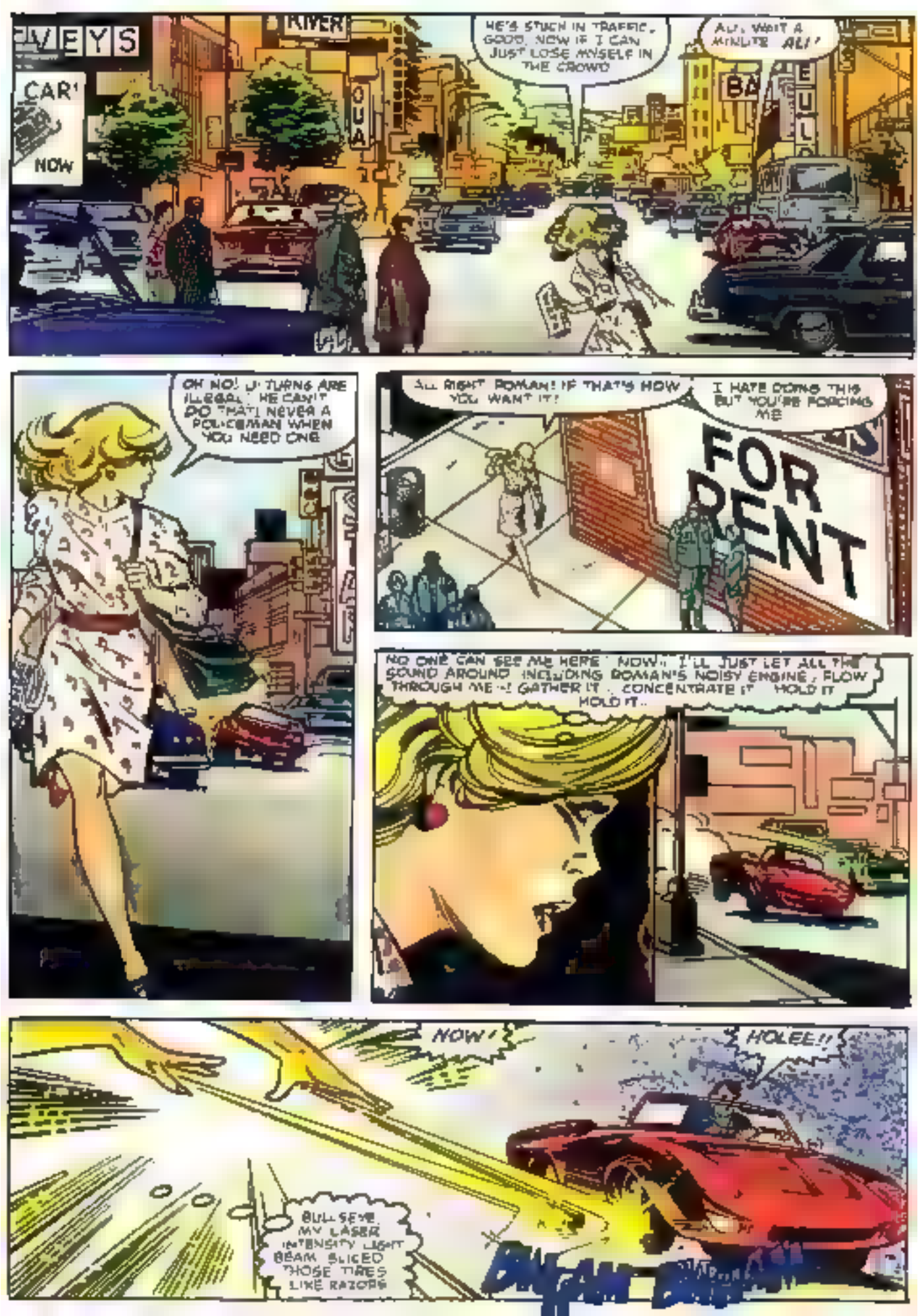
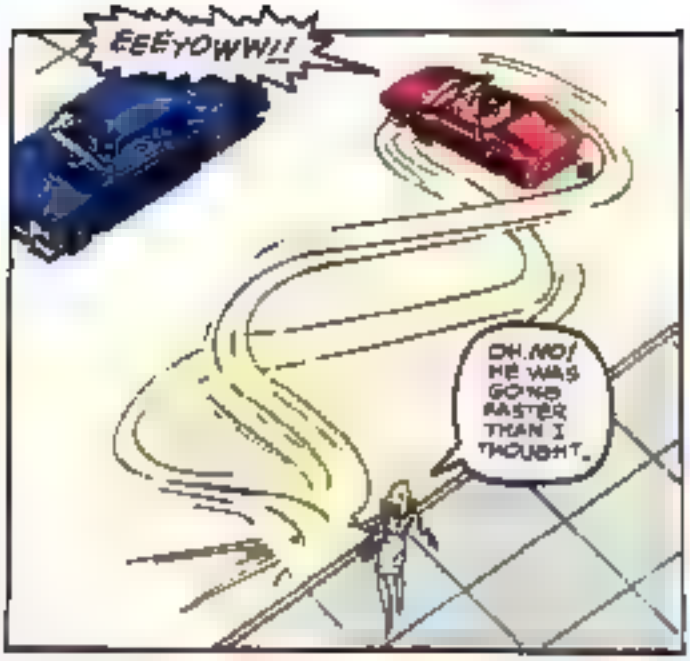

MOMENTS LATER
BUT LADY WE JUST GOT STARTED!
I KNOW, BUT THIS IS ALL THE MONEY I HAVE. I CAN'T AFFORD TO RIDE ANY FURTHER. THANKS
NIOR'S
LIQUOR
BAR
NOW I'VE GOT TO WALK HOME! DARN THAT ROMAN
AN HOUR AND A HALF LATER.
THESE SHOES WERE NOT MADE FOR WALKING
I'M EXHAUSTED! I CAN'T WAIT TO GET TO BED
WHAT?! ROMAN?!
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?!
YOUR SUPER IS A BIG FAN OF MINE.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. AND YOU SHOULD BE HONORED! TIME AND TIDE WAIT FOR NO MAN. AND ROMAN NEKOBON WAITS FOR NO WOMAN - USUALLY

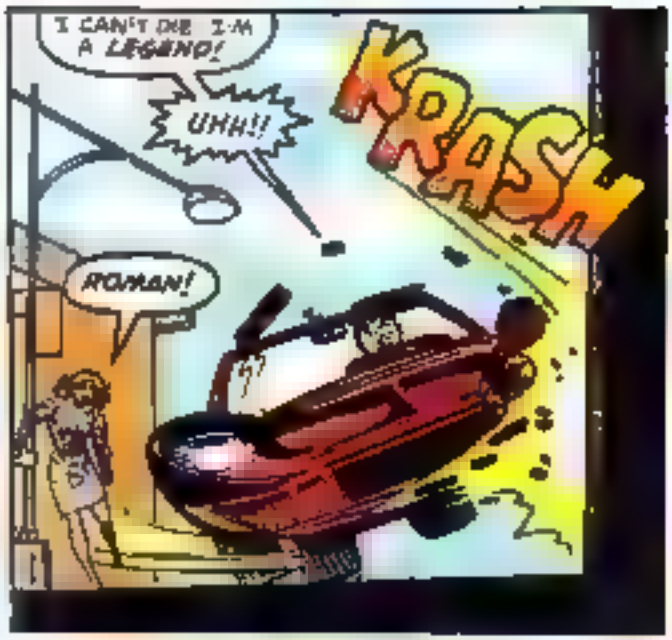

I MADE AN EXCEPTION TONIGHT, BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D WANT TO CELEBRATE
ALL I WANT TO DO IS GO TO BED
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND
I, I MEAN, I
ROMAN, NO!!
COME ON ALL MEN IN MY ARMS... OR AT LEAST STOP SQUIRMING
OH!
HUH?!
CRASH
THAT DOES IT. GET OUT OF MY APARTMENT AND OUT OF MY LIFE
ALL MY DEAR YOU'RE MAGNIFICENT WHEN YOU'RE PURPLE WITH RAGE. BUT IT'S SO UNNECESSARY
STOP FIGHTING IT. LET PASSION OVERWHELM YOU
ARE YOU CRAZY?! GET OUT OF HERE. LEAVE ME ALONE!!
ALL WOMEN DON'T TURN ME DOWN

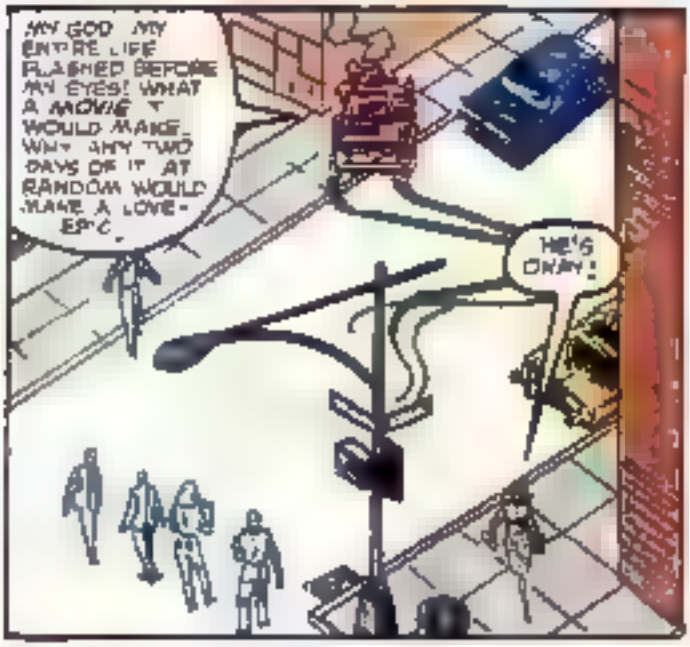

I DO, GOT IT!
YOU THINK YOU'RE SPECIAL -- ABOVE LITTLE THINGS LIKE COMMON DECENCY! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR KIND TODAY!
ALL YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HOLLYWOOD WORKS!
OUT!
THERE ARE LOTS OF BEAUTIFUL YOUNG SINGERS WHO'D GIVE ANYTHING FOR WHAT I'M OFFERING. DO YOU WANT TO LIVE IN THIS PIGSTY FOREVER?!
CAN'T YOU HEAR? OUT. GET OUT!!
ALL RIGHT! BUT YOUR CAREER IS DEAD! UNDERSTAND?!
OUT!
SLAM
GREAT...
...JUST GREAT
SO MUCH FOR DREAMS. HUH?
WHAT A DAY... IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT TO BE SHATTERED?


SHIT MORNING...
I COULD JUST ROLL UP IN A BALL AND DIE... OR RUN HOME TO DADDY.
OR START OVER!
I FEEL LIKE MASHED POTATOES BUT I'M NOT READY TO GIVE IN YE-
AH! THERE SHE IS
GOOD MORNING, ALI.
OH- YOU!
THIS IS 'MORNING' RIGHT? IT'S A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ME BEING AWAKE AT THIS TIME OF DAY
YOU LOOK TERRIFIC ALMOST AS GOOD AS I DO. LET'S TAKE A RIDE AND WATCH THE LESSER MORTALS GAPE.
ME NEKOBOH. PLEASE JUST LEAVE ME ALONE
DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT A SACRIFICE I'VE MADE FOR YOU? IT'S A.M. MORNING! THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS TALK TO ME
WHAT DO I HAVE TO SAY TO GET RID OF YOU?
LET'S DISCUSS OUR MOVIE!
I'M NOT INTERESTED. DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY?
NO, BUT HUM A FEW BARS.

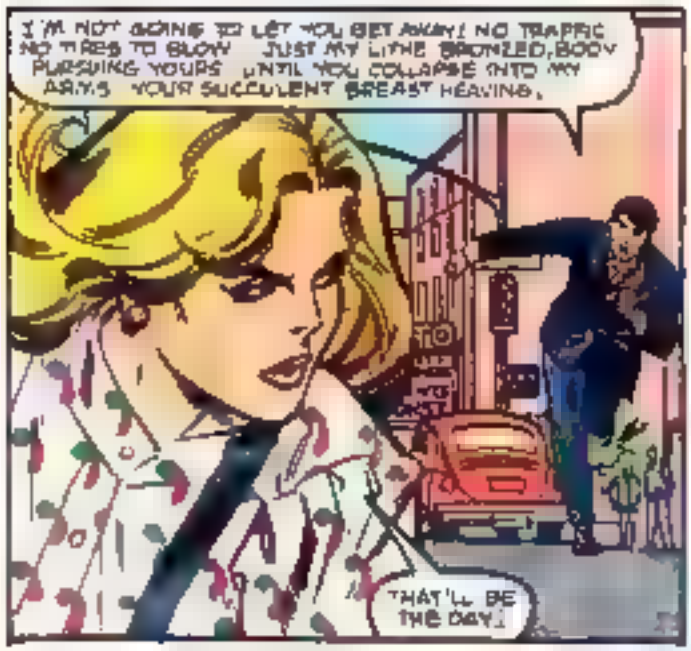

EYS
CAR!
NOW
RIVER
HE'S STUCK IN TRAFFIC. GOOD. NOW IF I CAN JUST LOSE MYSELF IN THE CROWD
AW, WAIT A MINUTE ALI!
OH NO! U-TURNS ARE ILLEGAL! HE CAN'T DO THAT! NEVER A POLICEMAN WHEN YOU NEED ONE
ALL RIGHT ROMAN! IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT!
I HATE DOING THIS BUT YOU'RE FORCING ME
FOR RENT
NO ONE CAN SEE ME HERE NOW... I'LL JUST LET ALL THE SOUND AROUND INCLUDING ROMAN'S NOISY ENGINE, FLOW THROUGH ME...! GATHER IT... CONCENTRATE IT HOLD IT HOLD IT..
NOW!
HOLEE!!
BULL'S EYE. MY LASER INTENSITY LIGHT BEAM SLICED THOSE TIRES LIKE RAZORS
BWAAAM BWAAAM

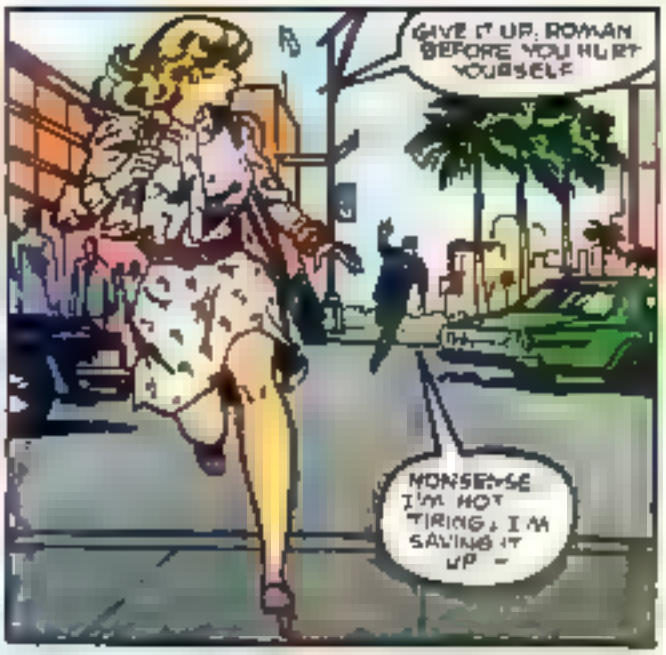

EEEYOWW!!
OH NO! HE WAS GOING FASTER THAN I THOUGHT.


I CAN'T DIE I'M A LEGEND!
UHH!!
KRASH
ROMAN!

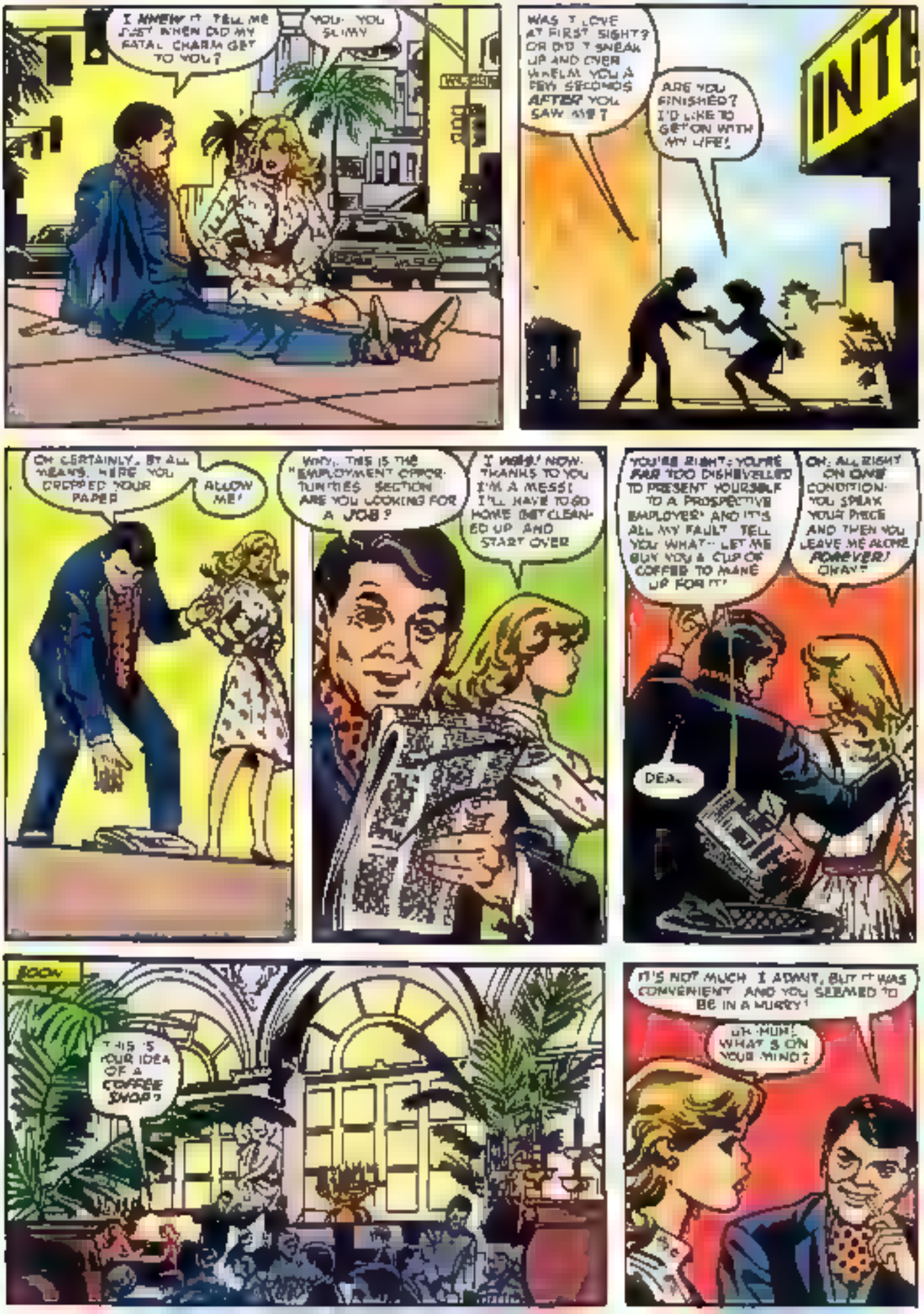

MY GOD MY ENTIRE LIFE FLASHED BEFORE MY EYES! WHAT A MOVIE IT WOULD MAKE. WHY ANY TWO DAYS OF IT AT RANDOM WOULD MAKE A LOVE-EPIC.
HE'S OKAY!

UH-OH. HE'S MORE OKAY THAN I WANTED!
ALI' WAIT UP!
YOU MANIAC. WHY DON'T YOU GO CORRUPT A TROOP OF GIRL SCOUTS!?
MORE FOR YOUR MONEY!


I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU GET AWAY! NO TRAFFIC NO TIRES TO SLOW JUST MY LITHE BRONZED, BOOTY PURSUING YOURS UNTIL YOU COLLAPSE INTO MY ARMS YOUR SUCCULENT BREAST HEAVING.
THAT'LL BE THE DAY!


GIVE IT UP, ROMAN BEFORE YOU HURT YOURSELF
NONSENSE I'M NOT TIRING, I AM SAVING IT UP -

"FOR AN ALL-OUT DRAMATIC SPRINT"
"TO... THE F-FINISH!
OH, MY, GOD
ROMAN!!
ROMAN?
OHH H..
ARE YOU OKAY?
IF YOU'RE FAKING
N-NO. HELP ME... M-MY HEART...
ALL RIGHT! JUST HANG ON! I'LL CALL AN AMBULANCE
HEY...
AHA! YOU DO CARE
WHAT?!!

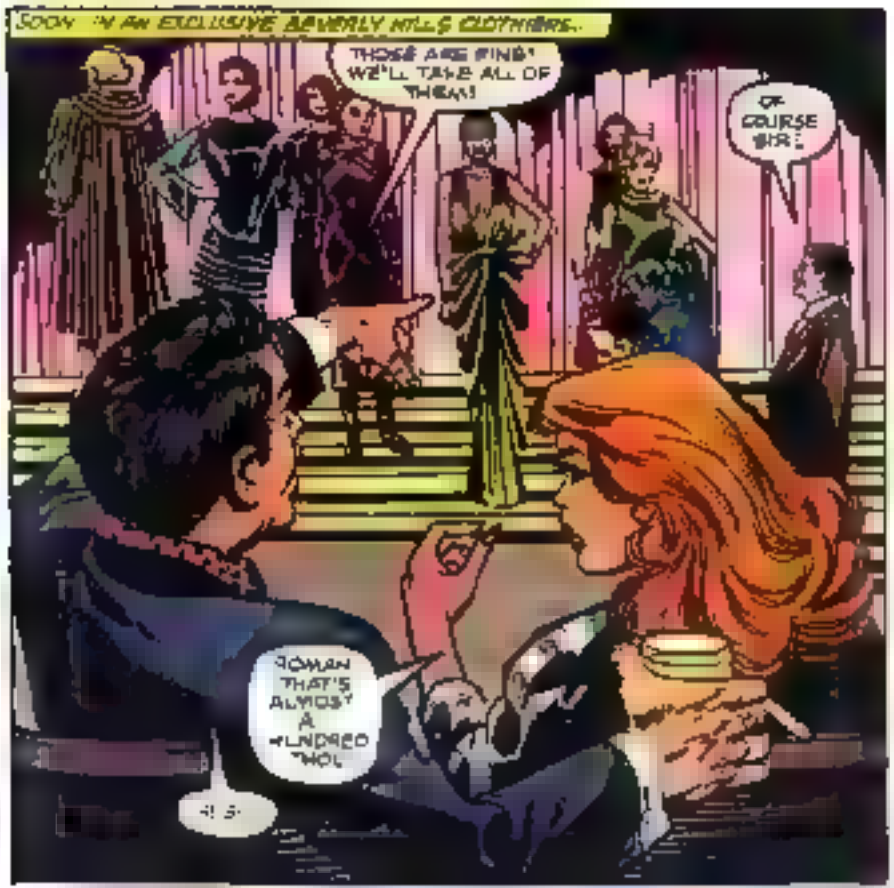

I KNEW IT! TELL ME JUST WHEN DID MY FATAL CHARM GET TO YOU?
YOU- YOU SLIMY
WAS IT LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT? OR DID IT SNEAK UP AND OVER WHELM YOU A FEW SECONDS AFTER YOU SAW ME?
ARE YOU FINISHED? I'D LIKE TO GET ON WITH MY LIFE!
OH CERTAINLY. BY ALL MEANS. HERE YOU DROPPED YOUR PAPER
ALLOW ME!
WHY, THIS IS THE "EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES" SECTION ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A JOB?
I WISH! NOW. THANKS TO YOU I'M A MESS! I'LL HAVE TO GO HOME GET CLEANED UP AND START OVER
YOU'RE RIGHT: YOU'RE FAR TOO DISHEVELLED TO PRESENT YOURSELF TO A PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER! AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT TELL YOU WHAT-- LET ME BUY YOU A CUP OF COFFEE TO MAKE UP FOR IT!
OH: ALL RIGHT ON ONE CONDITION: YOU SPEAK YOUR PIECE AND THEN YOU LEAVE ME ALONE FOREVER! OKAY?
DEAL
SOON
THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF A COFFEE SHOP?
IT'S NOT MUCH I ADMIT, BUT IT WAS CONVENIENT AND YOU SEEMED TO BE IN A HURRY!
UH-HUH! WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

I'LL LEVEL WITH YOU ALL YOU'RE AN UNUSUAL WOMAN I LIKE YOU!
THANKS, BUT YOU HAVE A FUNNY WAY OF SHOWING THAT AGAIN
I KNOW! AT ANY RATE YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER BIMBO READY TO DO ANYTHING WITH ANYBODY TO GET AHEAD YOU'VE GOT STRONG PRINCIPLES YOU EVEN RESISTED MY IRRESISTIBLE CHARM!
I ADMIRE THAT AND I HAVEN'T ADMIRED ANYONE EXCEPT MYSELF FOR A LONG TIME
AGAIN THANKS, BUT -
SEE, I WANT YOU TO SUCCEED! IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE LIKE YOU SUCCEEDED.
I WANT YOU TO BE IN MY MOVIE NO STRINGS ATTACHED!
I- I DON'T KNOW, ROMAN I DON'T THINK
YEAH IT'S TIME I MADE ANOTHER MOVIE I DON'T KNOW MY ACCOUNTANTS ADVISE ME TO
A GOOD MOVIE WITH A NEWLY DISCOVERED HOT YOUNG STAR- ET WITH REAL TALENT COULD BE JUST THE TICKET!
OF COURSE IT'S A LOT OF HASSLE BUT IT'D BRING IN THE DOUGH PERK UP THE OL RECORD SALES YOU KNOW HELP SUPPORT MY LAWYERS AGENTS AND EX-WIVES IN THE EXTRAVAGANT MANNER TO WHICH THEY'VE BECOME ACCUSTOMED
YEP! WITH YOUR LOOKS YOUR TALENT MY INFLUENCE AND MY SEX WE COULD BOTH DO OKAY
ROMAN DO YOU REALLY MEAN THAT? YOU HAVE YOUR PICK OF EVERY GIRL WHO WANTS A BREAK! DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES, KID! AND I BELIEVE THAT WITH ALL MY HEART SOUL AND WALLET!
NOW LET'S GET STARTED!
O. OKAY

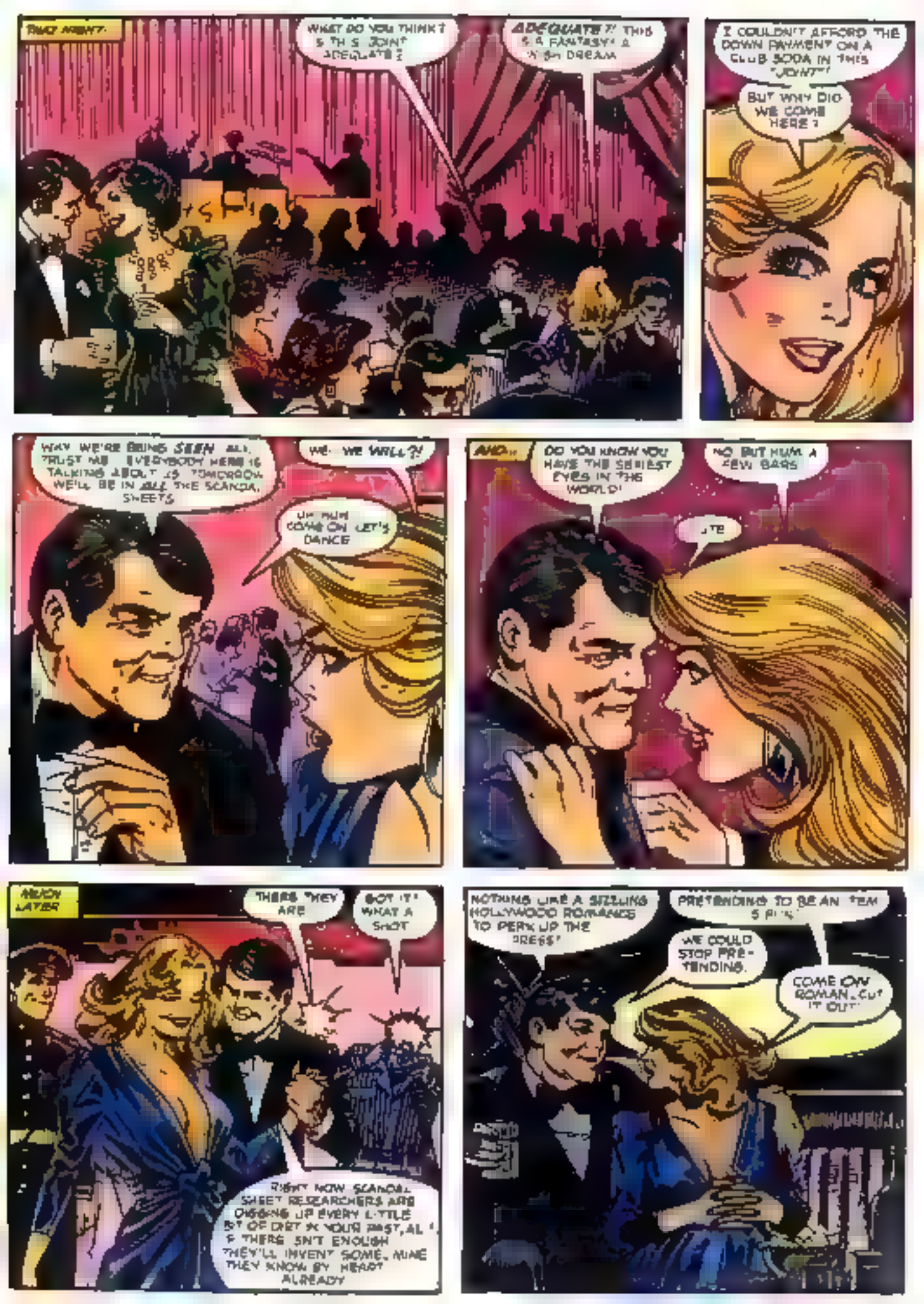
LET'S GET GOING THEN! MY LUNCH OUGHT TO BE HERE BY NOW. WE'VE GOT A LOT TO DO!

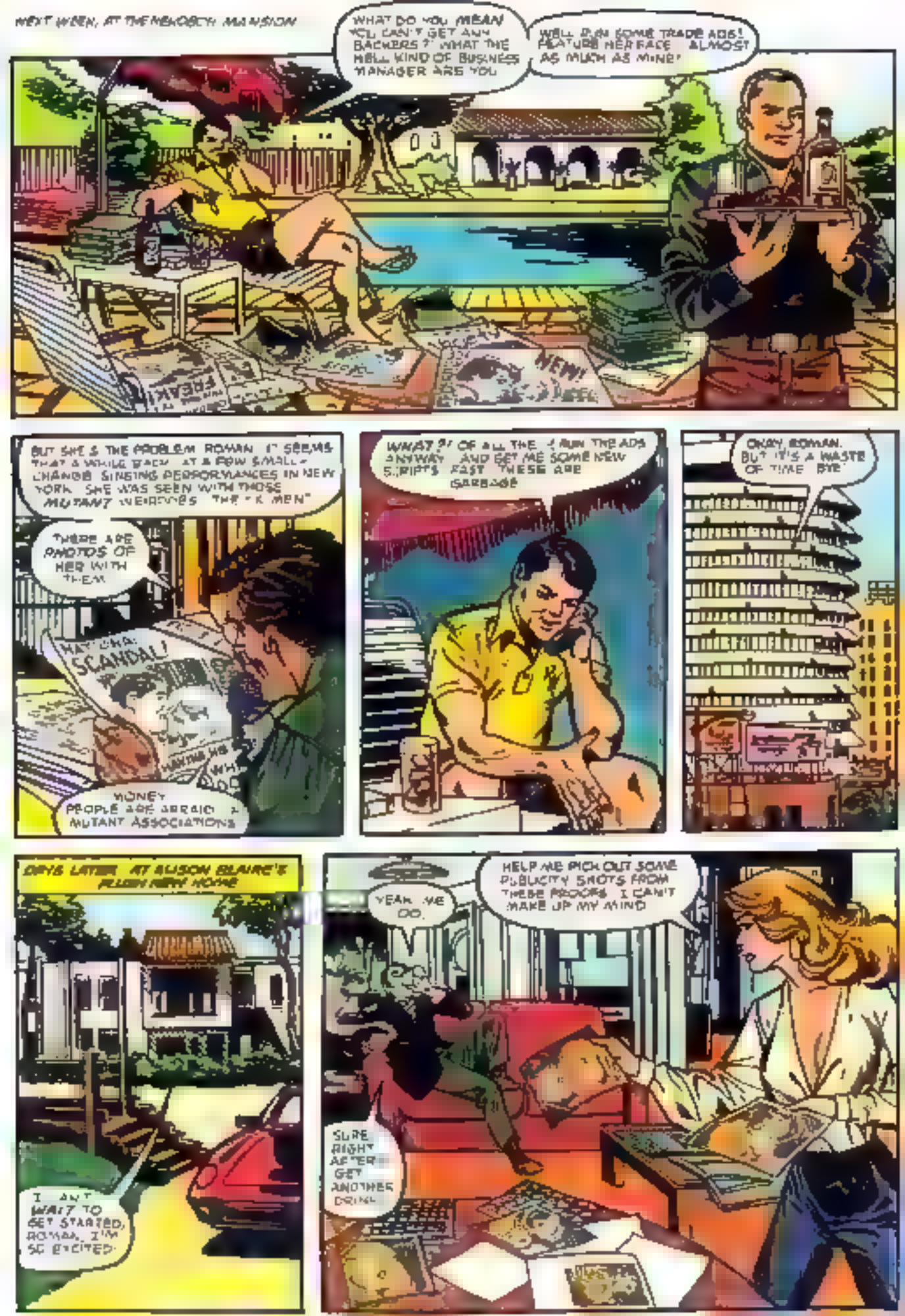
OF COURSE! WE'VE GOT TO FIND A STUDIO, A SCRIPT, RAISE MONEY BUT THOSE ARE BUSINESS DETAILS I'LL HAVE MY PEOPLE HANDLE THAT STUFF LATER.
FIRST WE'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
ME?

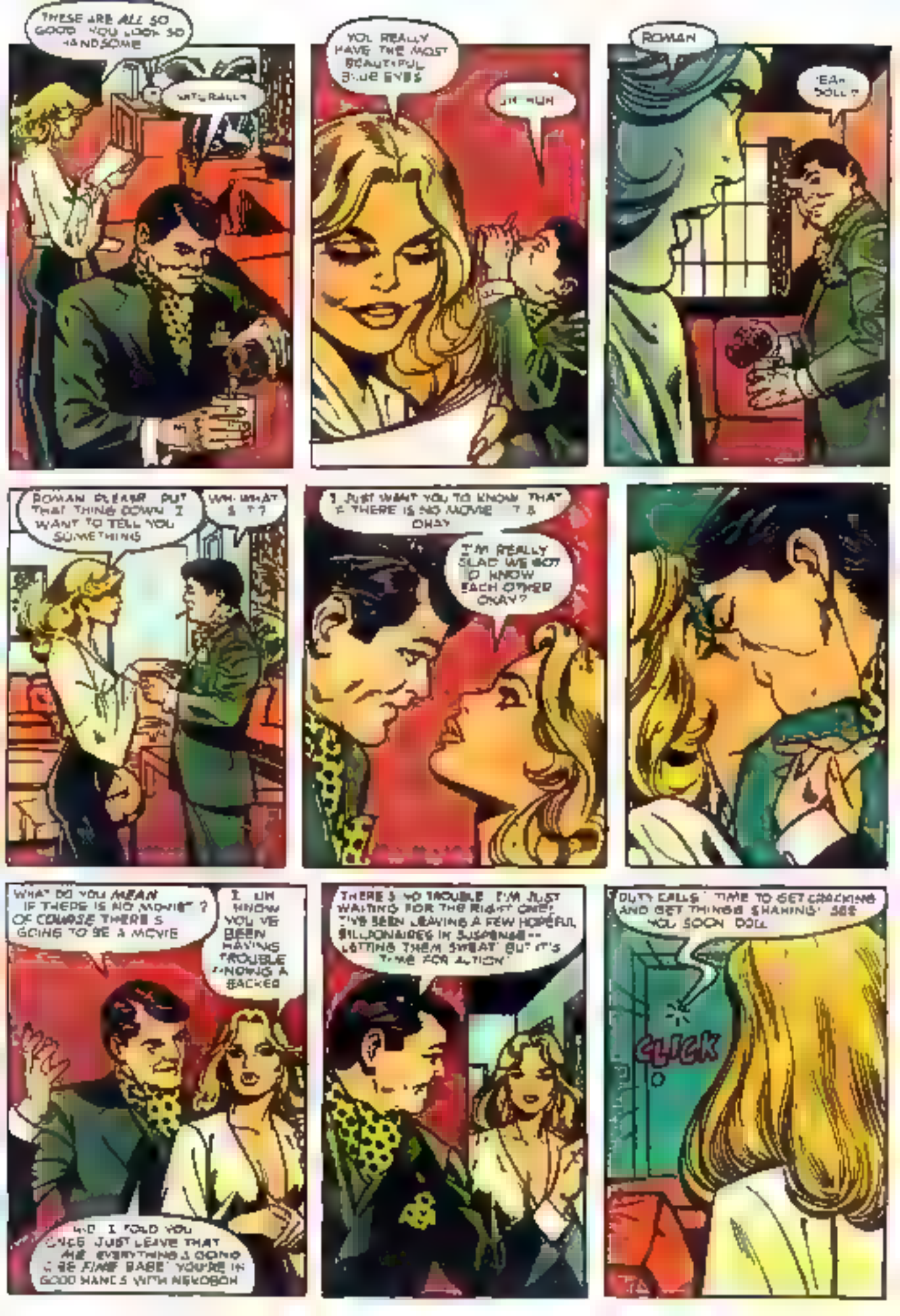
BUT
WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF THAT DUMP YOU LIVE IN! AND YOU'LL NEED A NEW WARDROBE, JEWELS, FURS
NO BUTS. IMAGE IS EVERYTHING! TO MAKE IT IN THIS TOWN YOU'VE GOT TO LOOK AS THOUGH YOU ALREADY HAVE!

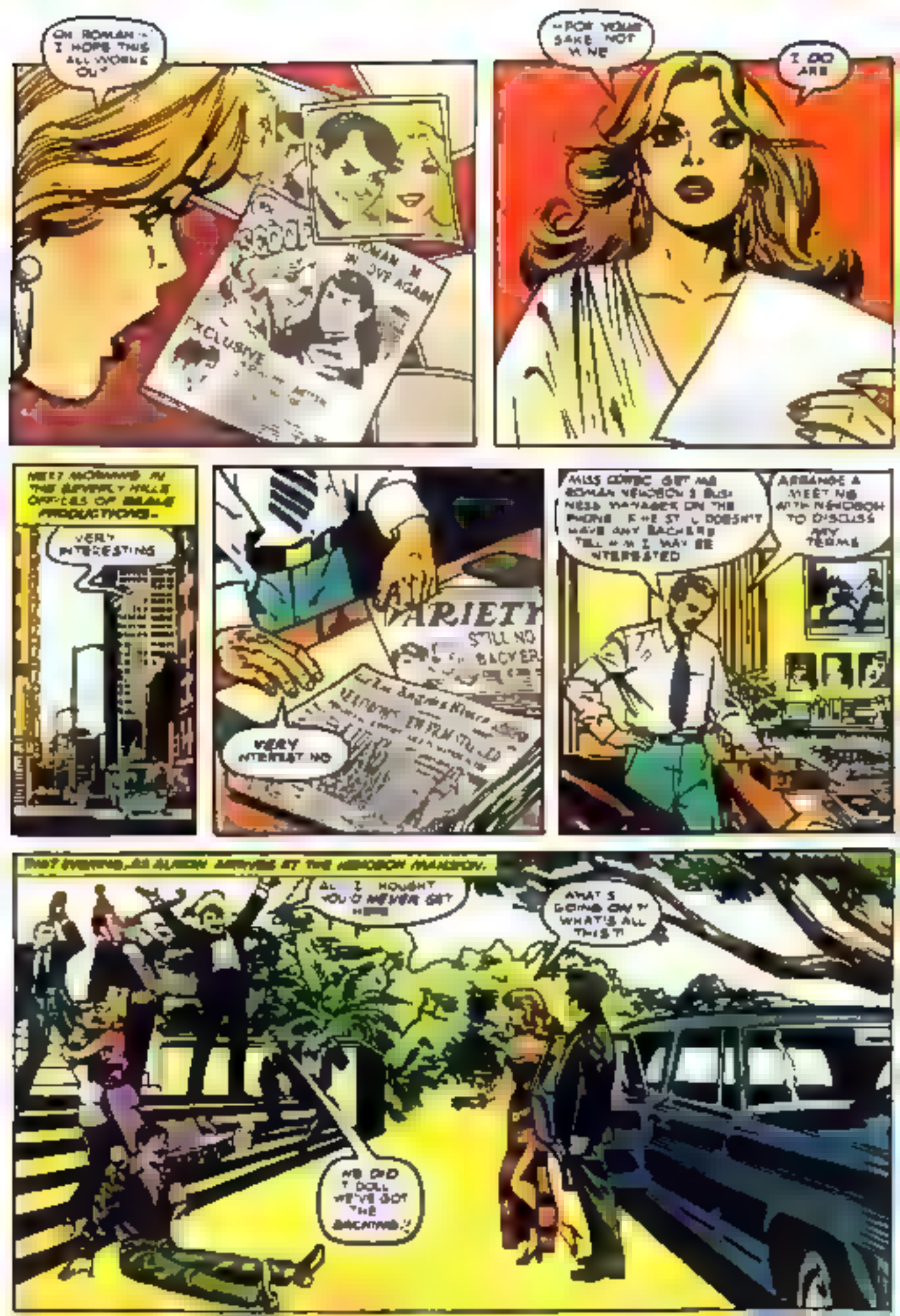

SOON IN AN EXCLUSIVE BEVERLY HILLS CLOTHIERS...
THOSE ARE FINE! WE'LL TAKE ALL OF THEM!
OF COURSE SIR!
WOMAN THAT'S ALMOST A HUNDRED THOU!
H'S

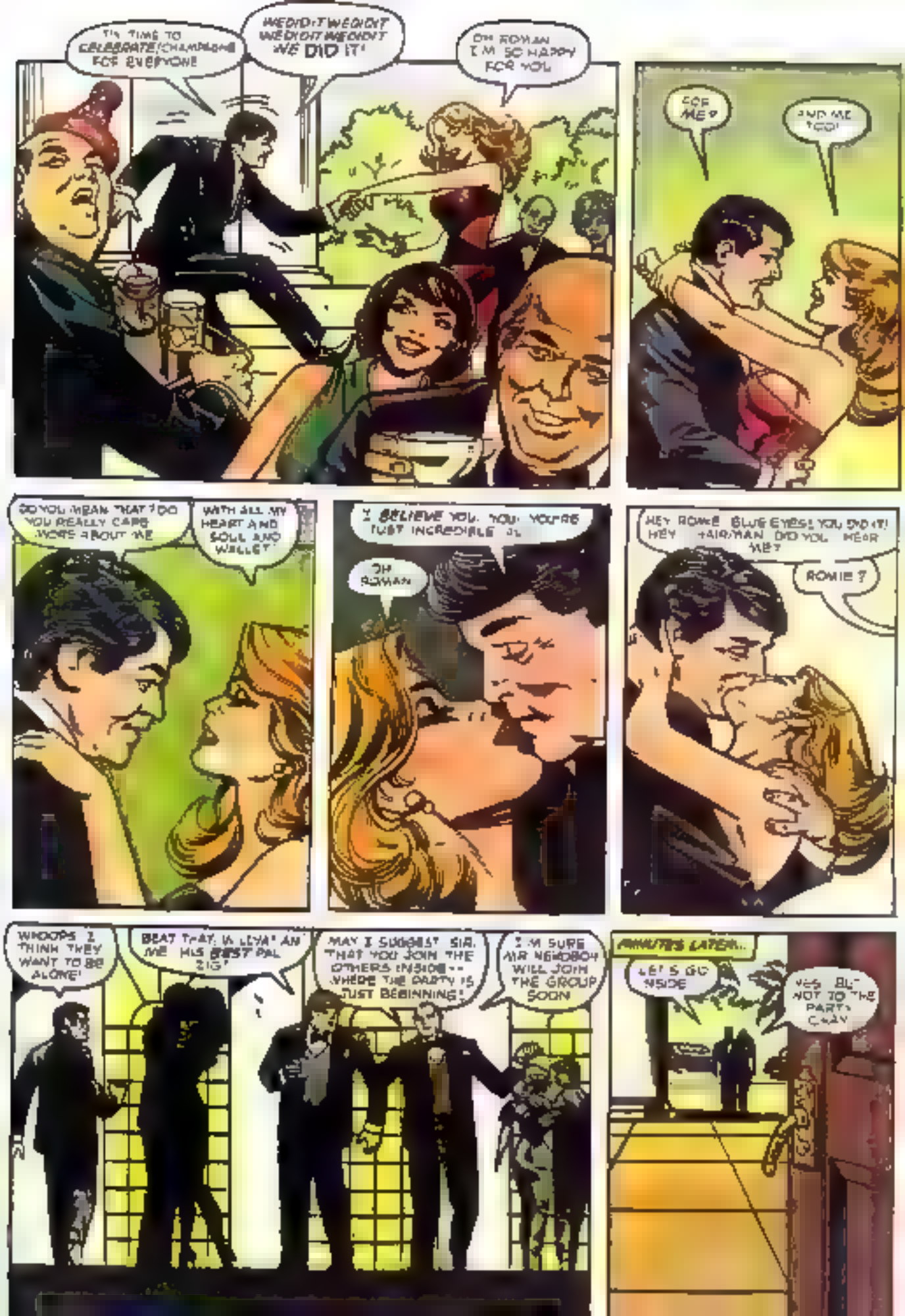
AND LATER...
BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF THE VALLEY DON'T YOU THINK SO?
BUT THE PRICE'S RIDICULOUS WE'LL TAKE IT
OF COURSE!
ON TO TIFFANY'S MY DEAR

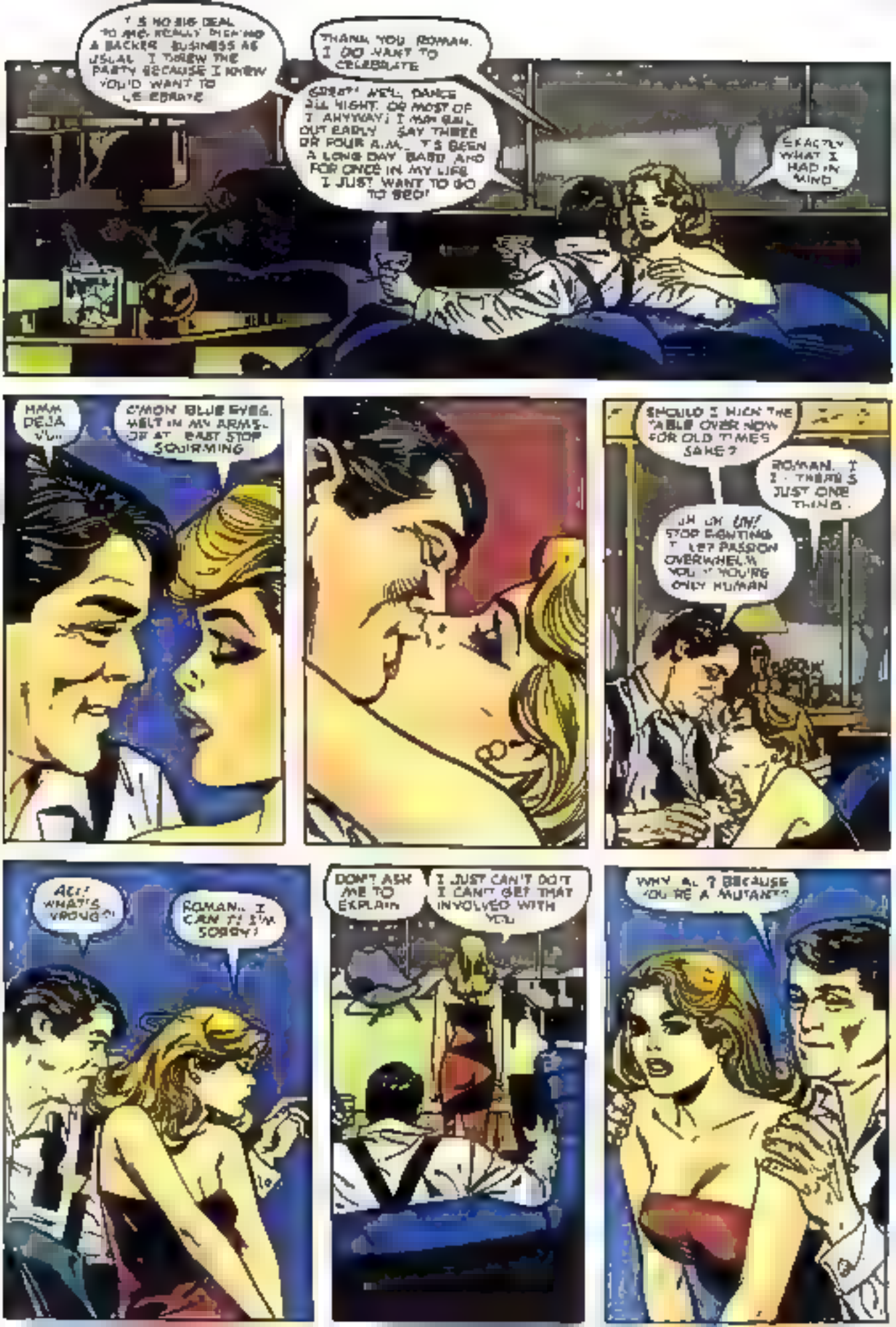

THAT NIGHT...
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IS THIS JOINT ADEQUATE?
ADEQUATE?! THIS IS A FANTASY! A HIGH DREAM
I COULDN'T AFFORD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON A CLUB SODA IN THIS "JOINT"!
BUT WHY DID WE COME HERE?
WHY WE'RE BEING SEEN, ALL. TRUST ME. EVERYBODY HERE IS TALKING ABOUT US TOMORROW. WE'LL BE IN ALL THE SCANDAL SHEETS
WE- WE WILL?!
UH-HUH COME ON, LET'S DANCE
AND...
DO YOU KNOW YOU HAVE THE SEXIEST EYES IN THE WORLD!
NO, BUT HUM A FEW BARS
...YE
MEANWHILE...
THERE THEY ARE
GOT IT! WHAT A SHOT
RIGHT NOW SCANDAL SHEET RESEARCHERS ARE DIGGING UP EVERY LITTLE BIT OF DIRT ON YOUR PAST, AND IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH THEY'LL INVENT SOME. NINE THEY KNOW BY HEART ALREADY
NOTHING LIKE A SIZZLING HOLLYWOOD ROMANCE TO PERK UP THE PRESS!
PRETENDING TO BE AN ITEM AGAIN?
WE COULD STOP PRETENDING.
COME ON ROMAN...CUT IT OUT!

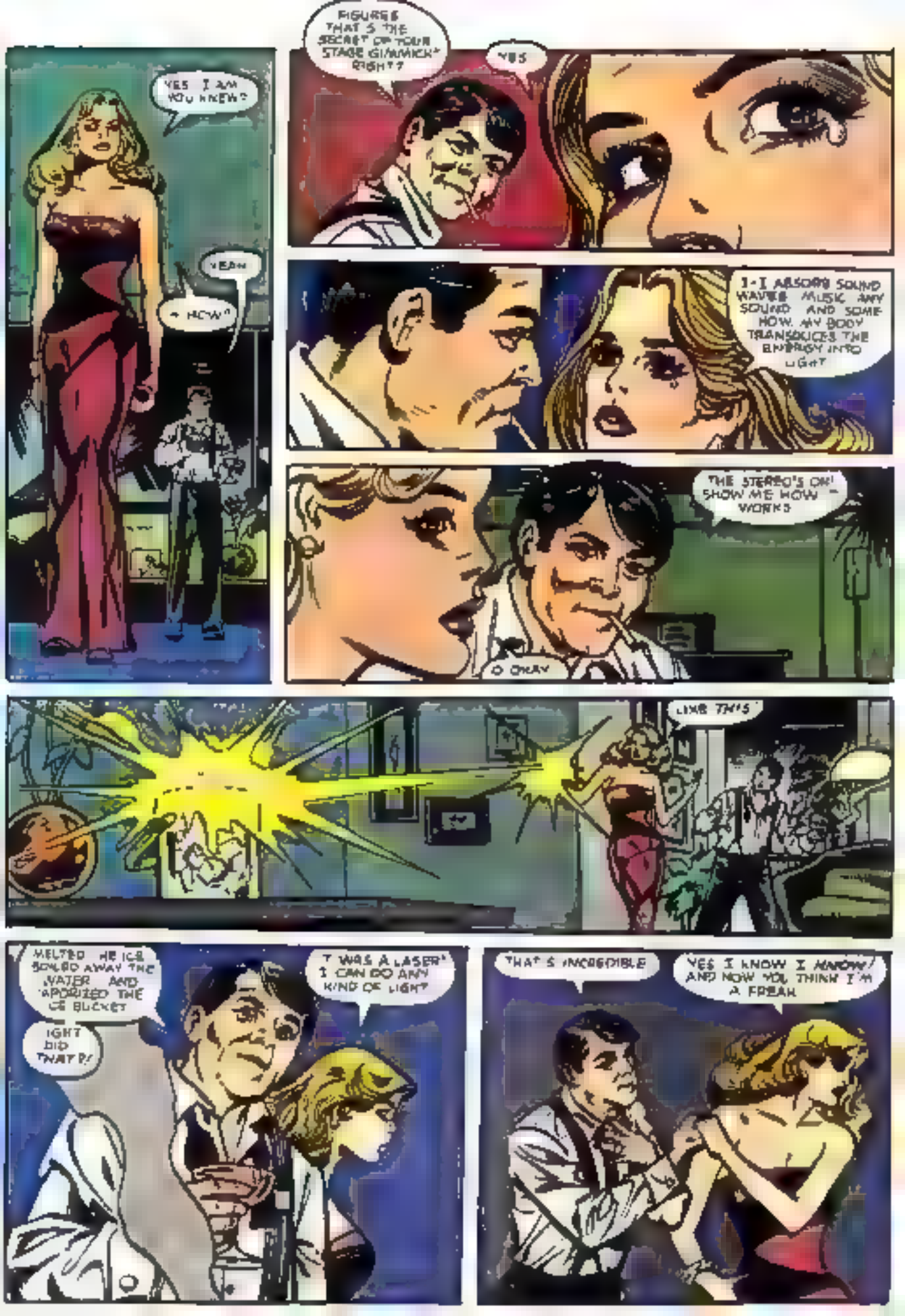

NEXT WEEK, AT THE NEMODEX MANSION
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T GET ANY BACKERS? WHAT THE HELL KIND OF BUSINESS MANAGER ARE YOU
WELL, RUN SOME TRADE ADS! FEATURE HER FACE ALMOST AS MUCH AS MINE!
FREAK!
NEW!
BUT SHE'S THE PROBLEM, ROMAN. IT SEEMS THAT A WHILE BACK, AT A FEW SMALL-CHANCE SINGING PERFORMANCES IN NEW YORK, SHE WAS SEEN WITH THOSE MUTANT WEIRDOES "THE X-MEN"
THERE ARE PHOTOS OF HER WITH THEM.
MAY CAUSE SCANDAL!
MONEY PEOPLE ARE AFRAID OF MUTANT ASSOCIATIONS
WHAT?! OF ALL THE... I RUN THE ADS ANYWAY, AND GET ME SOME NEW SCRIPTS FAST. THESE ARE GARBAGE
OKAY, ROMAN. BUT IT'S A WASTE OF TIME. BYE.
DAYS LATER, AT ALISON BLAIRE'S PLUSH NEW HOME
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET STARTED, ROMAN. I'M SO EXCITED.
YEAH, ME TOO.
HELP ME PICK OUT SOME PUBLICITY SHOTS FROM THESE PROOFS. I CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND.
SURE, RIGHT AFTER I GET ANOTHER DRINK.

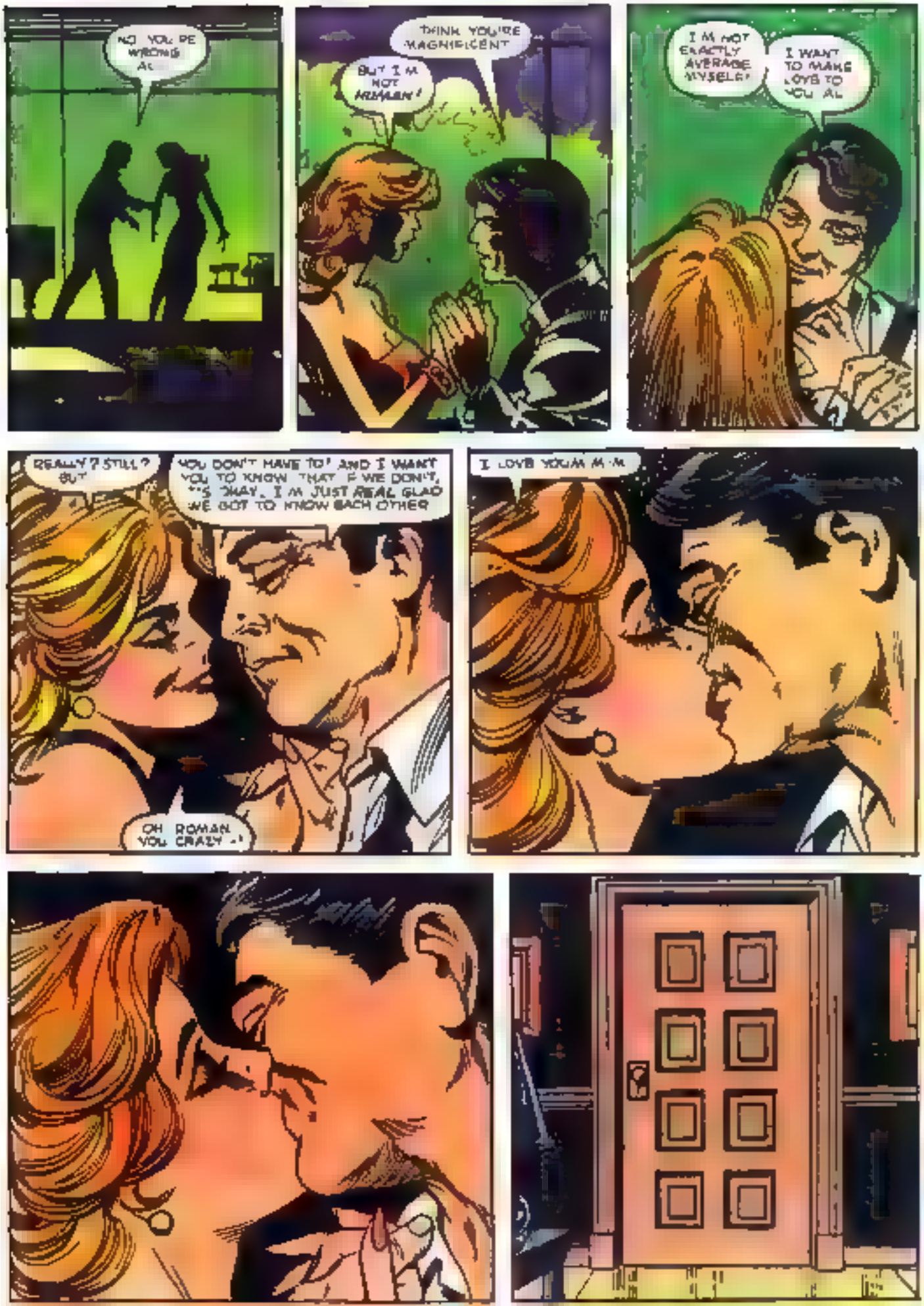

THESE ARE ALL SO GOOD YOU LOOK SO HANDSOME
YOU REALLY HAVE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BLUE EYES
UH HUH
ROMAN
YEAH DOLL ?
ROMAN PLEASE PUT THAT THING DOWN I WANT TO TELL YOU SOMETHING
WH- WHAT S ? ?
I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IF THERE IS NO MOVIE ? S OKAY
I'M REALLY GLAD WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER OKAY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN IF THERE IS NO MOVIE ? OF COURSE THERE S GOING TO BE A MOVIE
I UH KNOW YOU VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE RAISING A BACKER
HEY I TOLD YOU ONCE JUST LEAVE THAT ME EVERYTHING S GOING TO BE FINE BABE YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH NEKOBOH
THERE S NO TROUBLE I'M JUST WAITING FOR THE RIGHT ONE! I VE BEEN LEAVING A FEW HOPEFUL BILLIONAIRES IN SUSPENSE -- LETTING THEM SWEAT BUT IT'S TIME FOR ACTION
DUTY CALLS TIME TO GET CRACKING AND GET THINGS SHAKING SEE YOU SOON DOLL
CLICK

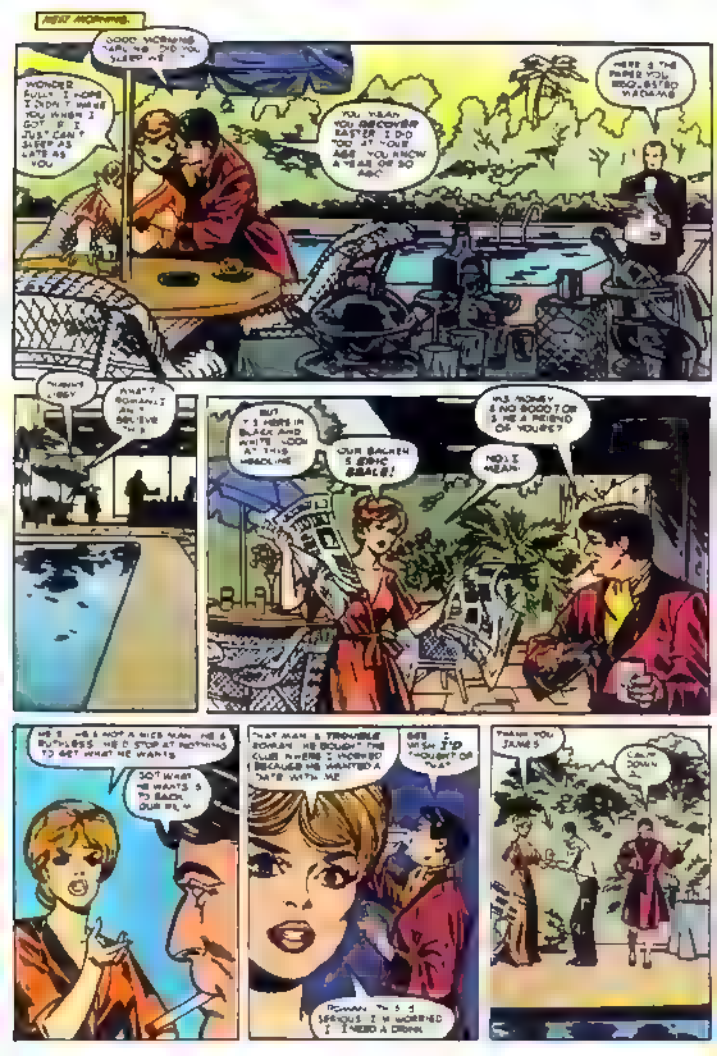

OH ROMAN - I HOPE THIS ALL WORKS OUT
EXCLUSIVE
FOR YOUR SAKE NOT MINE
I DO ARE
NEXT MORNING IN THE BEVERLY HILLS OFFICES OF BEAU PRODUCTIONS...
VERY INTERESTING
VARIETY
STILL NO BACKER
VERY INTERESTING
MISS COMIC GET ME ROMAN NEMOBOH'S BUSINESS MANAGER ON THE PHONE IF HE STILL DOESN'T HAVE ANY BACKERS TELL HIM I MAY BE INTERESTED
ARRANGE A MEET ME WITH NEMOBOH TO DISCUSS ANY TERMS
THAT EVENING...AS ALISON ARRIVES AT THE NEMOBOH MANSION.
ALL I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER GET HERE
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT'S ALL THIS?!
HE DID I TOLD YOU WE'VE GOT THE BACKING!!

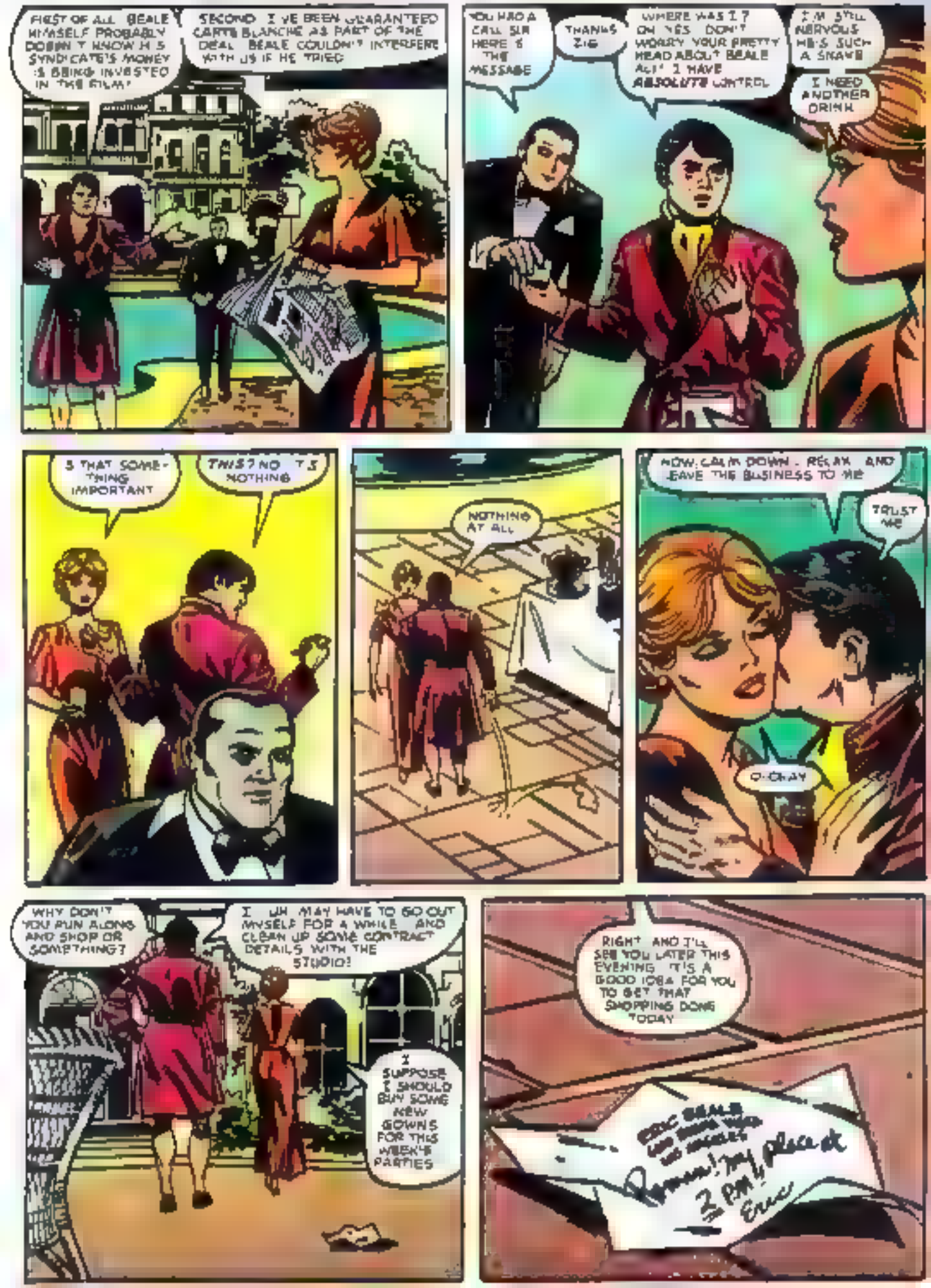

'TIS TIME TO CELEBRATE/CHAMPAGNE FOR EVERYONE
WE DID IT! WE DID IT! WE DID IT! WE DID IT
OH ROMAN I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU
FOR ME?
AND ME TOO!
DO YOU MEAN THAT? DO YOU REALLY CARE MORE ABOUT ME
WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL AND WALLET
I BELIEVE YOU. YOU YOU'RE JUST INCREDIBLE JL
OH ROMAN
HEY ROMIE BLUE EYES! YOU DID IT! HEY FAIRMAN DID YOU HEAR ME?
ROMIE?
WHOOPS I THINK THEY WANT TO BE ALONE!
BEAT THAT, WILLYA' AN' ME HIS BEST PAL ZIG'
MAY I SUGGEST SIR, THAT YOU JOIN THE OTHERS INSIDE -- WHERE THE PARTY IS JUST BEGINNING!
I'M SURE MR NEWBODY WILL JOIN THE GROUP SOON
MINUTES LATER...
LET'S GO INSIDE
YES BUT NOT TO THE PARTY OKAY

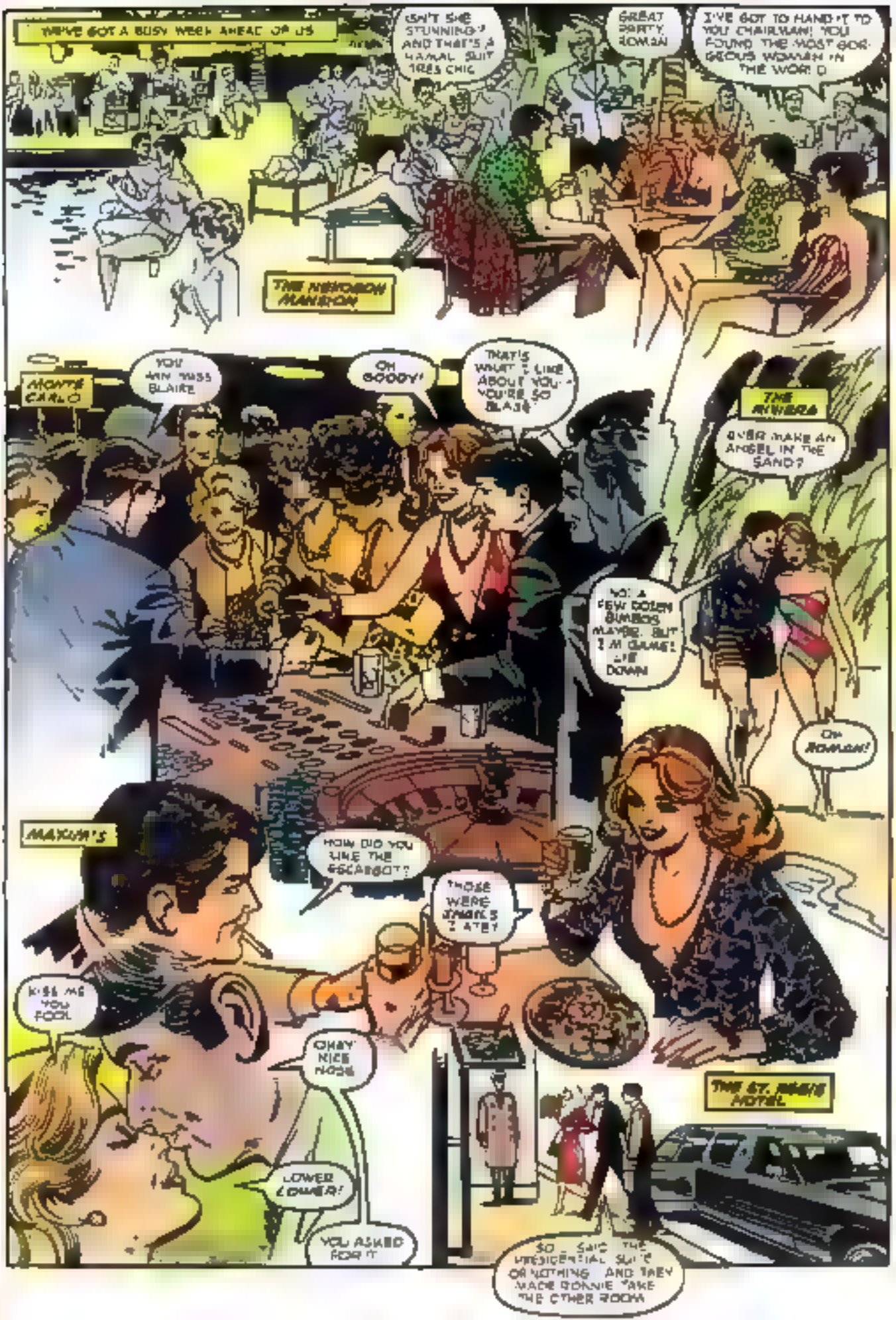

IT'S NO BIG DEAL TO ME, REALLY. I'M KIND OF A BACKER. BUSINESS AS USUAL. I THREW THE PARTY BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D WANT TO CELEBRATE.
THANK YOU, ROMAN. I DO WANT TO CELEBRATE.
GREAT! WELL, DANCE ALL NIGHT. OR MOST OF IT, ANYWAY. I MAY BAIL OUT EARLY. SAY THREE OR FOUR A.M.. IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY, BABE, AND FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE, I JUST WANT TO GO TO BED!
EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND.
HMM. DEJA VU...
C'MON, BLUE EYES. MELT IN MY ARMS. OR AT LEAST STOP SQUIRMING.
SHOULD I KICK THE TABLE OVER NOW FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE?
ROMAN. I I... THERE'S JUST ONE THING.
UH-UH, UH! STOP FIGHTING IT. LET PASSION OVERWHELM YOU. YOU'RE ONLY HUMAN.
AGH! WHAT'S WRONG?!
ROMAN... I CAN'T! I'M SORRY!
DON'T ASK ME TO EXPLAIN.
I JUST CAN'T DO IT. I CAN'T GET THAT INVOLVED WITH YOU.
WHY, AL? BECAUSE YOU'RE A MUTANT?

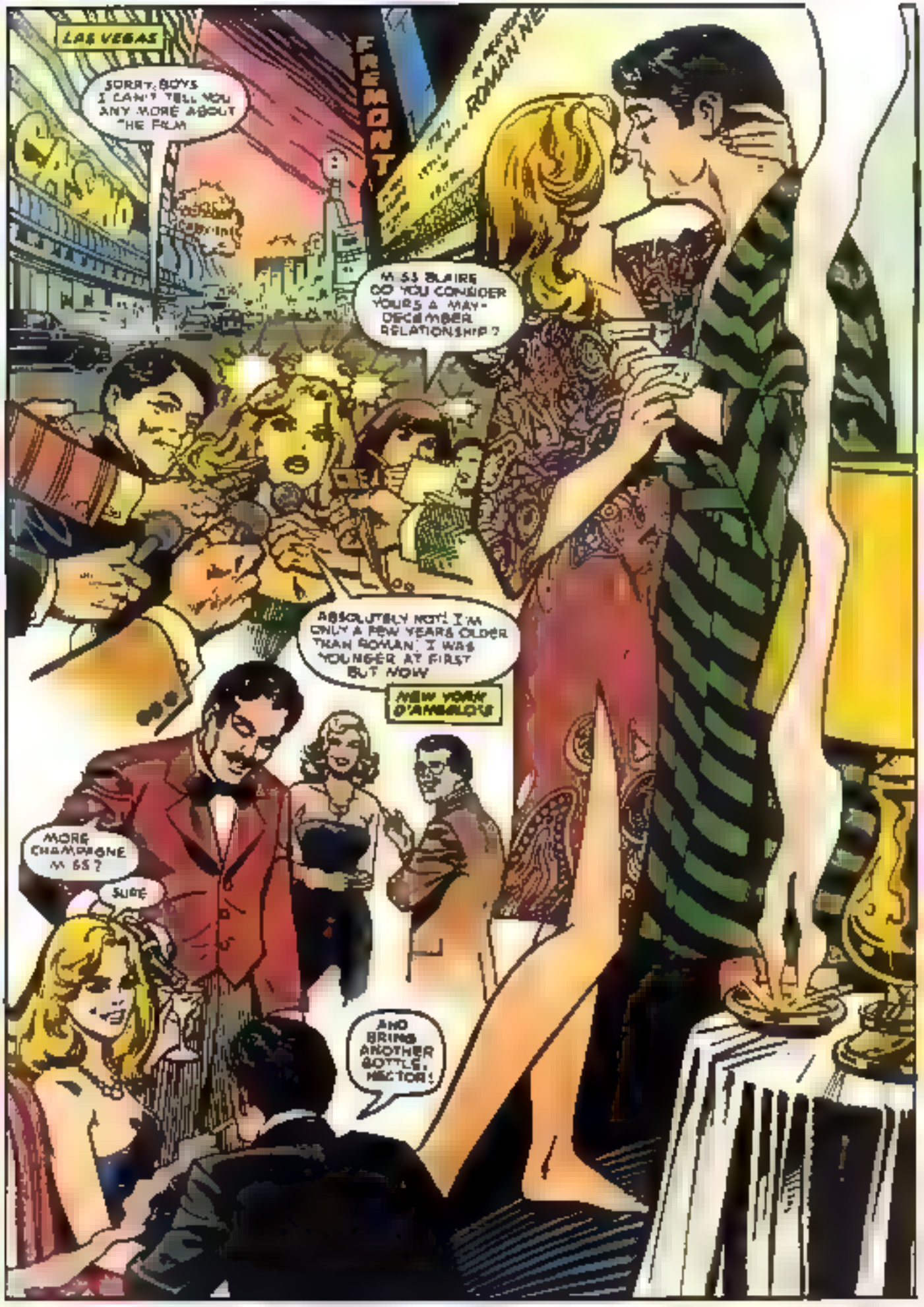

YES I AM YOU KNEW?
YEAH
HOW?
FIGURES THAT'S THE SECRET OF YOUR STAGE GIMMICK RIGHT?
YES
I-I ABSORB SOUND WAVES MUSIC ANY SOUND AND SOME HOW MY BODY TRANSDUCES THE ENERGY INTO LIGHT
THE STEREO'S ON! SHOW ME HOW IT WORKS
O OKAY
LIKE THIS
MELTED HER ICE SCALED AWAY THE WATER AND VAPORIZED THE ICE BUCKET
IT WAS A LASER! I CAN DO ANY KIND OF LIGHT
RIGHT DID THAT?
THAT'S INCREDIBLE
YES I KNOW I KNOW! AND NOW YOU THINK I'M A FREAK

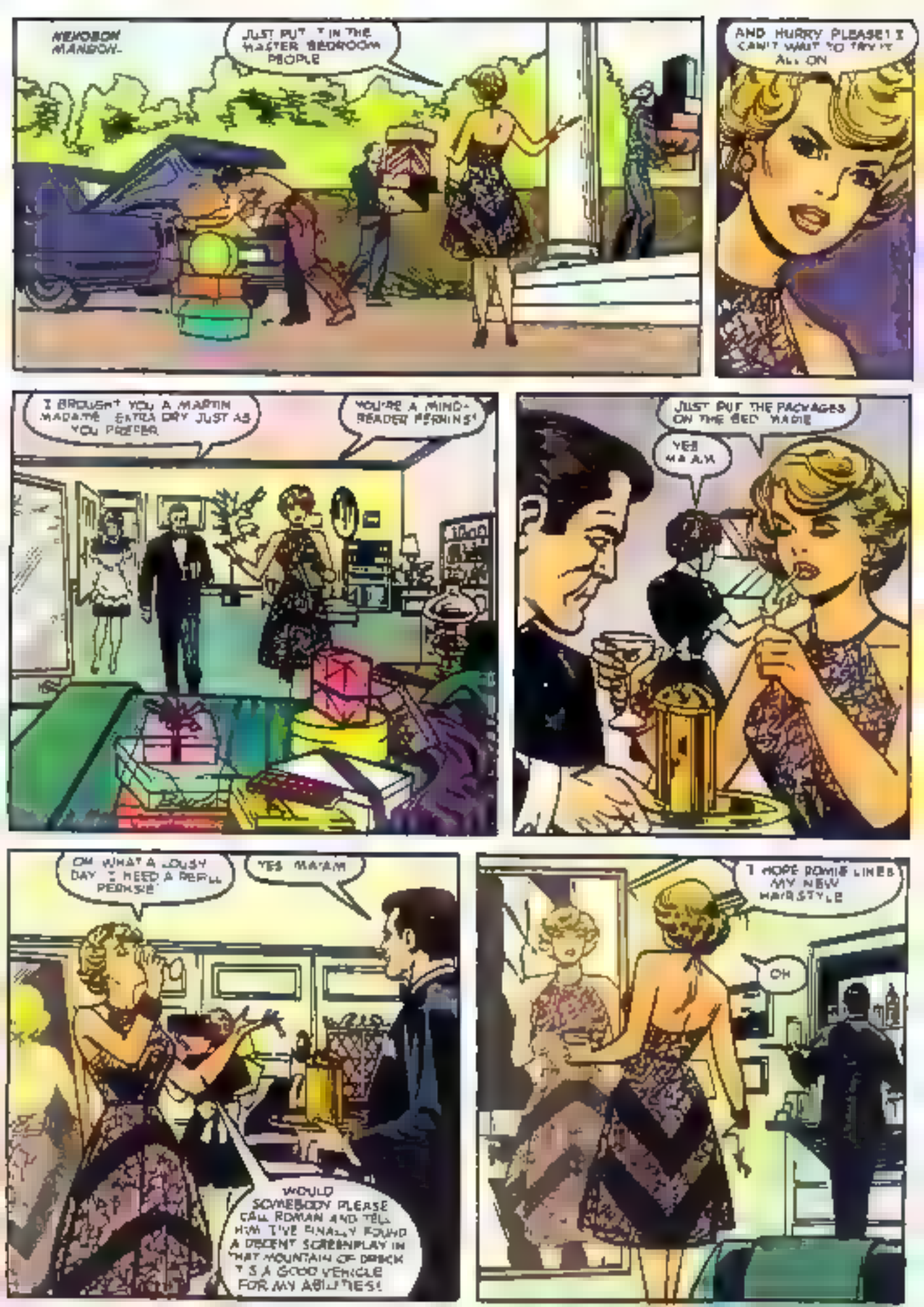

NO YOU'RE WRONG AL
I THINK YOU'RE MAGNIFICENT
BUT I'M NOT HUMAN!
I'M NOT EXACTLY AVERAGE MYSELF
I WANT TO MAKE LOVE TO YOU AL
REALLY? STILL? BUT
YOU DON'T HAVE TO! AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IF WE DON'T, IT'S OKAY. I'M JUST REAL GLAD WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER
OH ROMAN YOU CRAZY...
I LOVE YOU MM-MM

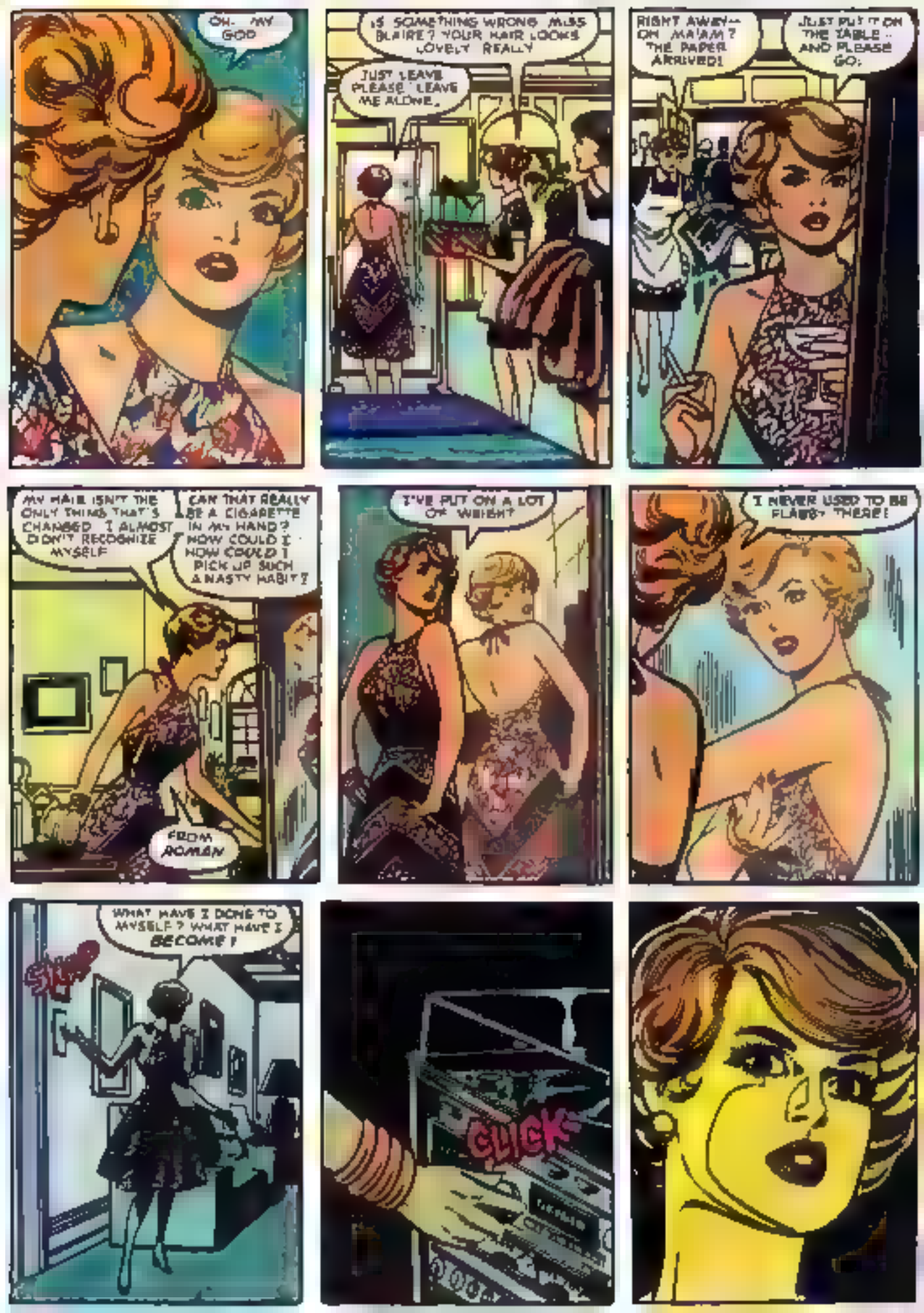

NEXT MORNING...
GOOD MORNING DARLING! DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
WONDER BULL I WORE I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW I GOT IF I JUST CAN'T SLEEP AS LATE AS YOU
YOU MEAN YOU DISCOVER EASTER I DID YOU AT YOUR AGE YOU KNOW A YEAR OF SO AGO?
HERE'S THE PAPER YOU REQUESTED MADAME
MADAME LIBBY
WHAT? ROMAN! I AM SHOCKED THAT
BUT IT'S HERE IN BLACK AND WHITE! LOOK AT THIS HEADLINE
OUR BACKER IS GONE! GONE!
HIS MONEY & NO BODY? OR IS HE A FRIEND OF YOURS?
NO! I MEAN
HE'S NOT A NICE MAN HE'S RUTHLESS HE'D STOP AT NOTHING TO GET WHAT HE WANTS
SO? WHAT HE WANTS IS TO BACK OUR PLAY
THAT MAN IS TROUBLE ROMAN HE BOUGHT THE CLUB WHERE I WORKED BECAUSE HE WANTED A DATE WITH ME
SAY I WISH I'D KNOWN OF THAT
ROMAN THIS IS SERIOUS I'M WORRIED I NEED A DRINK
THANK YOU JAMES
CALM DOWN AL

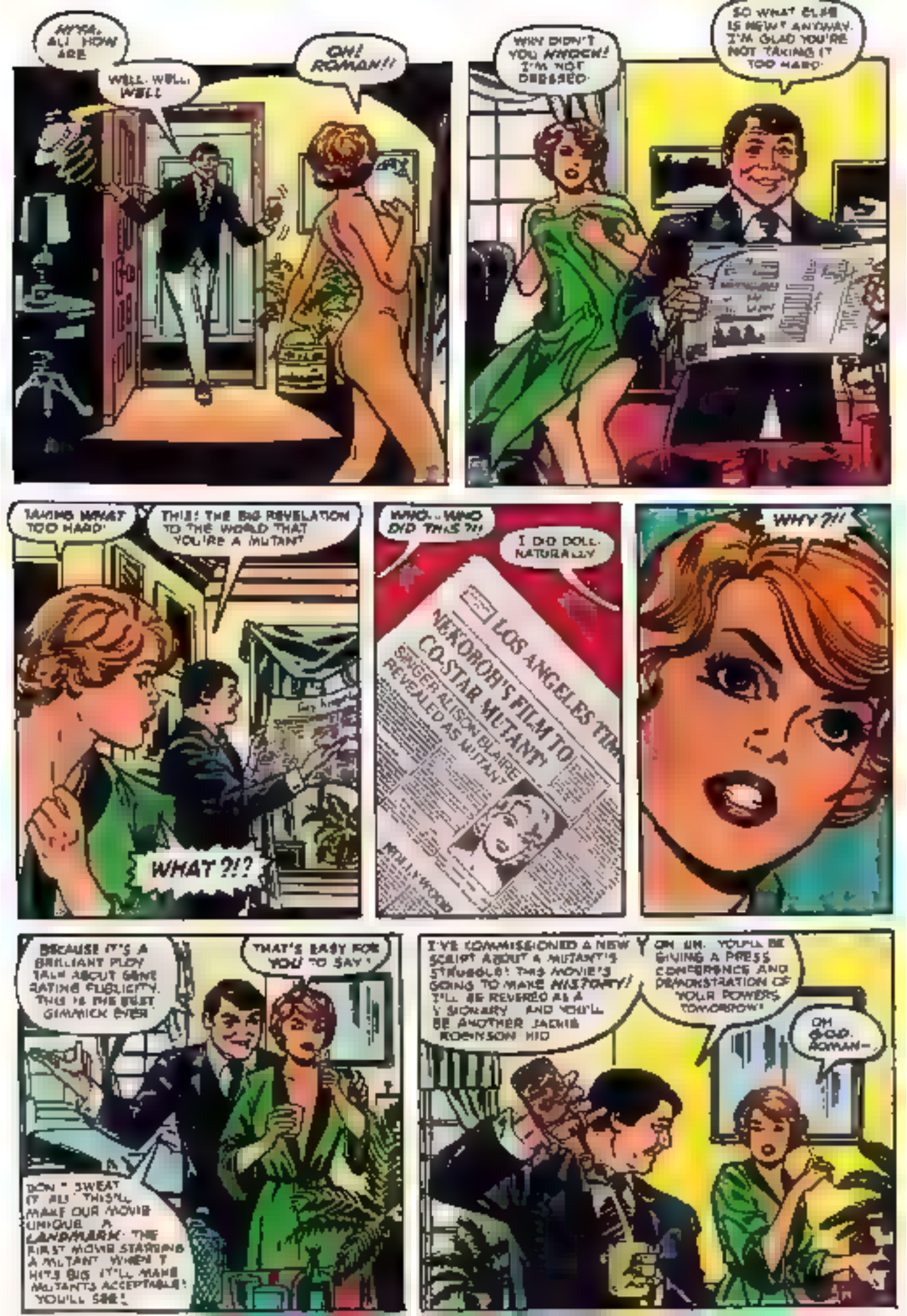

FIRST OF ALL BEALE HIMSELF PROBABLY DOESN'T KNOW HIS SYNDICATE'S MONEY IS BEING INVESTED IN THIS FILM!
SECOND I'VE BEEN GUARANTEED CARTE BLANCHE AS PART OF THE DEAL BEALE COULDN'T INTERFERE WITH US IF HE TRIED
YOU HAD A CALL SIR HERE'S THE MESSAGE
THANKS ZIG
WHERE WAS I? OH YES DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY HEAD ABOUT BEALE ALL I HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL
I'M STILL NERVOUS HE'S SUCH A SNAKE
I NEED ANOTHER DRINK
IS THAT SOMETHING IMPORTANT
THIS? NO IT'S NOTHING
NOTHING AT ALL
NOW: CALM DOWN. RELAX AND LEAVE THE BUSINESS TO ME
TRUST ME
O-OKAY
WHY DON'T YOU RUN ALONG AND SHOP OR SOMETHING?
I UH MAY HAVE TO GO OUT MYSELF FOR A WHILE AND CLEAN UP SOME CONTRACT DETAILS WITH THE STUDIO!
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BUY SOME NEW GOWNS FOR THIS WEEK'S PARTIES
RIGHT AND I'LL SEE YOU LATER THIS EVENING IT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR YOU TO GET THAT SHOPPING DONE TODAY
ERIC BEALE HIS WIFE AND HIS MISTRESS
Rendezvous! My place at 3 PM
Eric

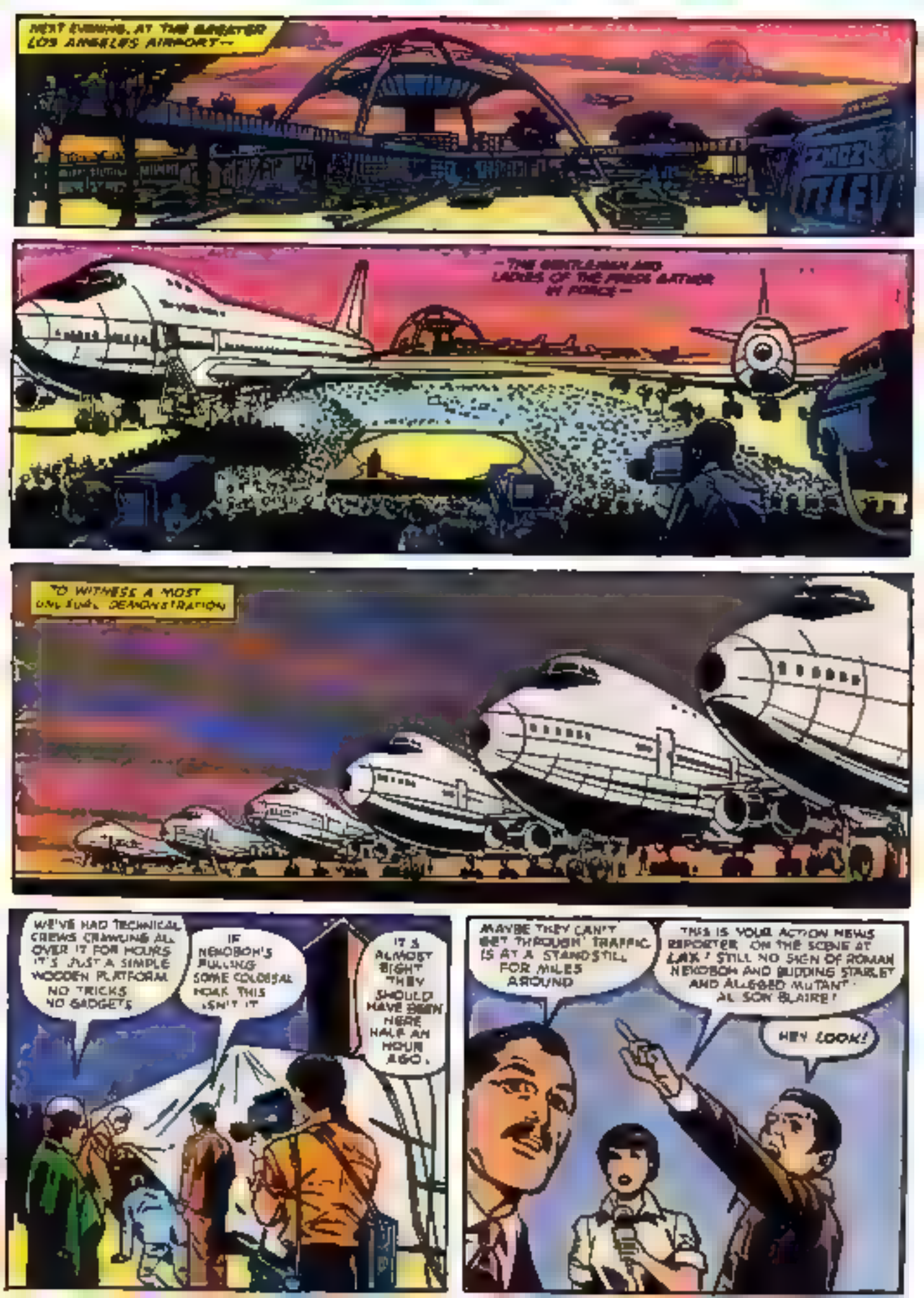

WE'VE GOT A BUSY WEEK AHEAD OF US
ISN'T SHE STUNNING? AND THAT'S A NAVAL SUIT HER CHIC
GREAT PARTY, ROMAN
I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU CHAIRMAN! YOU FOUND THE MOST GORGEOUS WOMAN IN THE WORLD
THE NEWDOM MANSION
MONTE CARLO
YOU WIN MISS BLAIRE
OH GOODY!
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU - YOU'RE SO BLASÉ
THE RIVIERA
OVER MAKE AN ANGEL IN THE SAND?
NO! A FEW DOZEN BUMPS MAYBE. BUT I'M GLAD! LIE DOWN
OH ROMAN!
MAXIM'S
HOW DID YOU LIKE THE ESCARGOT?
THOSE WERE SNAILS I ATE?
KISS ME YOU FOOL
OKAY NICE NOSE
LOWER LOWER!
YOU ASKED FOR IT
THE ST. REGIS HOTEL
SO SAID THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE OR NOTHING AND THEY MADE RONNIE TAKE THE OTHER ROOM


LAS VEGAS
SORRY, BOYS I CAN'T TELL YOU ANY MORE ABOUT THE FILM
FREMONT
ROMAN'S
MISS BLAIRE DO YOU CONSIDER YOURS A MAY-DECEMBER RELATIONSHIP?
ABSOLUTELY NOT! I'M ONLY A FEW YEARS OLDER THAN ROMAN. I WAS YOUNGER AT FIRST BUT NOW
NEW YORK D'AMBROSIO'S
MORE CHAMPAGNE M'SS?
SURE
AND BRING ANOTHER BOTTLE, HECTOR!

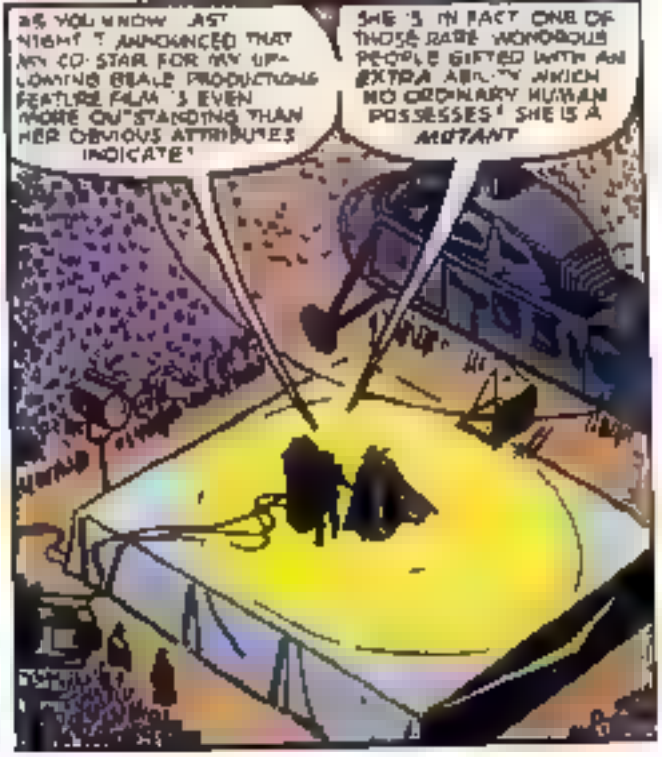

NEIMOIDIAN MANSION
JUST PUT IT IN THE MASTER BEDROOM PEOPLE
AND HURRY PLEASE! I CAN'T WAIT TO TRY IT ALL ON
I BROUGHT YOU A MARTINI MADAME EXTRA DRY JUST AS YOU PREFER
YOU'RE A MIND-READER PERKINS!
JUST PUT THE PACKAGES ON THE BED MADIE
YES MA'AM
OH WHAT A LOUSY DAY I NEED A REFILL PERKSIE
YES MA'AM
WOULD SOMEBODY PLEASE CALL ROMAN AND TELL HIM I'VE FINALLY FOUND A DECENT SCREENPLAY IN THAT MOUNTAIN OF DRECK IT'S A GOOD VEHICLE FOR MY ABILITIES!
I HOPE ROMIE LIKES MY NEW HAIRSTYLE
OH


OH. MY GOD
IS SOMETHING WRONG MISS BLAIRE? YOUR HAIR LOOKS LOVELY REALLY
JUST LEAVE PLEASE. LEAVE ME ALONE.
RIGHT AWAY— OH MA'AM? THE PAPER ARRIVED!
JUST PUT IT ON THE TABLE .. AND PLEASE GO.
MY HAIR ISN'T THE ONLY THING THAT'S CHANGED I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE MYSELF
CAN THAT REALLY BE A CIGARETTE IN MY HAND? HOW COULD I HOW COULD I PICK UP SUCH A NASTY HABIT?
FROM ROMAN
I'VE PUT ON A LOT OF WEIGHT
I NEVER USED TO BE FLABBY THERE!
WHAT HAVE I DONE TO MYSELF? WHAT HAVE I BECOME!
CLICK

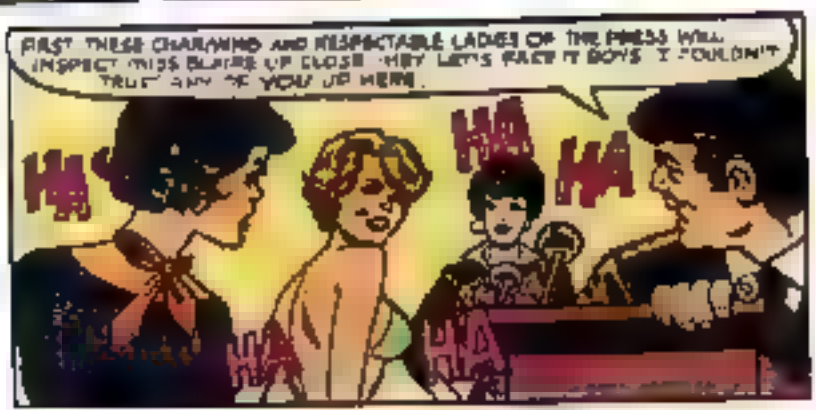

MYRA, ALI! HOW ARE
WELL, WELL, WELL
OH! ROMAN!!
WHY DIDN'T YOU KNOCK! I'M NOT DRESSED
SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW? ANYWAY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT TAKING IT TOO HARD
TAKING WHAT TOO HARD
THIS! THE BIG REVELATION TO THE WORLD THAT YOU'RE A MUTANT
WHAT?!?
WHO... WHO DID THIS?!!
I DID DOLL. NATURALLY
LOS ANGELES TIMES
NEKOROH'S FILM TO CO-STAR MUTANT
SINGER ALISON BLAIRE REVEALED AS MUTANT
HOLLYWOOD
WHY?!!
BECAUSE IT'S A BRILLIANT PLOY TALK ABOUT GIMMICK PUBLICITY. THIS IS THE BEST GIMMICK EVER
THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!
DON'T SWEAT IT ALI THIS'LL MAKE OUR MOVIE UNIQUE A LANDMARK. THE FIRST MOVIE STARRING A MUTANT WHEN IT HITS BIG IT'LL MAKE MUTANTS ACCEPTABLE! YOU'LL SEE!
I'VE COMMISSIONED A NEW SCRIPT ABOUT A MUTANT'S STRUGGLE! THIS MOVIE'S GOING TO MAKE HISTORY! I'LL BE REVERED AS A VISIONARY AND YOU'LL BE ANOTHER JACKIE ROBINSON KID
OH UM. YOU'LL BE GIVING A PRESS CONFERENCE AND DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR POWERS TOMORROW!
OH GOD, ROMAN—


NEXT EVENING, AT THE GREATER LOS ANGELES AIRPORT--
-THE GENTLEMEN AND LADIES OF THE PRESS AWAIT IN FORCE-
TO WITNESS A MOST UNUSUAL DEMONSTRATION
WE'VE HAD TECHNICAL CREWS CRAWLING ALL OVER IT FOR HOURS IT'S JUST A SIMPLE WOODEN PLATFORM. NO TRICKS NO GADGETS
IF NEMOBOH'S PULLING SOME COLOSSAL HOAX THIS ISN'T IT
IT'S ALMOST EIGHT THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE HALF AN HOUR AGO.
MAYBE THEY CAN'T GET THROUGH TRAFFIC IS AT A STANDSTILL FOR MILES AROUND
THIS IS YOUR ACTION NEWS REPORTER ON THE SCENE AT LAX! STILL NO SIGN OF ROMAN NEMOBOH AND BUDDING STARLET AND ALLEGED MUTANT AL SON BLAIRE!
HEY LOOK!

GOOD EVENING EVERYONE! THANKS FOR COMING.
IT'S THEM!
XENOBION SURE KNOWS HOW TO MAKE AN ENTRANCE
SEE YOU WORKING. WE PRACTICALLY INVENTED 'EM!


AS YOU KNOW LAST NIGHT I ANNOUNCED THAT MY CO-STAR FOR MY UP-COMING BLAIR PRODUCTIONS FEATURE FILM IS EVEN MORE OUTSTANDING THAN HER OBVIOUS ATTRIBUTES INDICATE!
SHE IS IN FACT ONE OF THOSE RARE WONDROUS PEOPLE GIFTED WITH AN EXTRA ABILITY WHICH NO ORDINARY HUMAN POSSESSES! SHE IS A MUTANT

—AND SHE IS HERE TONIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE THE MAGNIFICENCE AND SPLENDOR OF HER UNIQUE TALENTS
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN MAY I PRESENT THE FABULOUS BEAUTIFUL ALISON BLAIRE!
SHE DON'T OOH LIKE NO DANGEROUS MUTIE TO ME CHECK OUT THOSE BAZOOMS


FIRST THESE CHARMING AND RESPECTABLE LADIES OF THE PRESS WILL INSPECT MISS BLAIRE UP CLOSE HEY LET'S FACE IT BOYS I COULDN'T TRUST ANY OF YOU UP HERE.
HA HA
HA

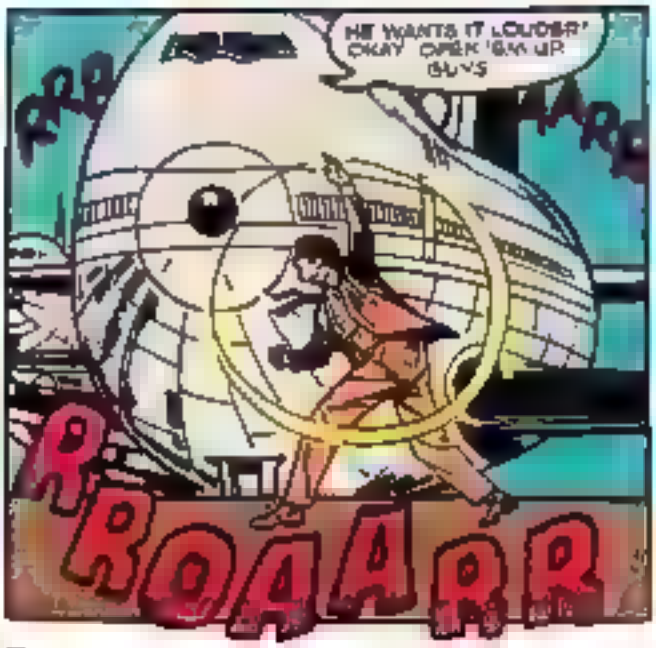
AND HAVING SATISFIED THEMSELVES THAT NOTHING ABOUT HER ATTIRE IF ANY IS UNUSUAL — NO HIDDEN GADGETS OR TRICKS WE SHALL PROCEED!
PILOT! CAN YOU HEAR ME? GOOD THEN —
GENTLEMEN START YOUR ENGINES!

WHREEEEEEEE

LOUD, AREN'T THEY?
WELL TO ALISON BLAIRE... KNOWN IN SOME CIRCLES AS THE DAZZLER THAT SOUND IS FUEL PURE ENERGY WHICH SHE CAN ABSORB CONVERT AND RELEASE AGAIN IN THE FORM OF LIGHT!
RRROA
AL SON
RROAAARR/RR

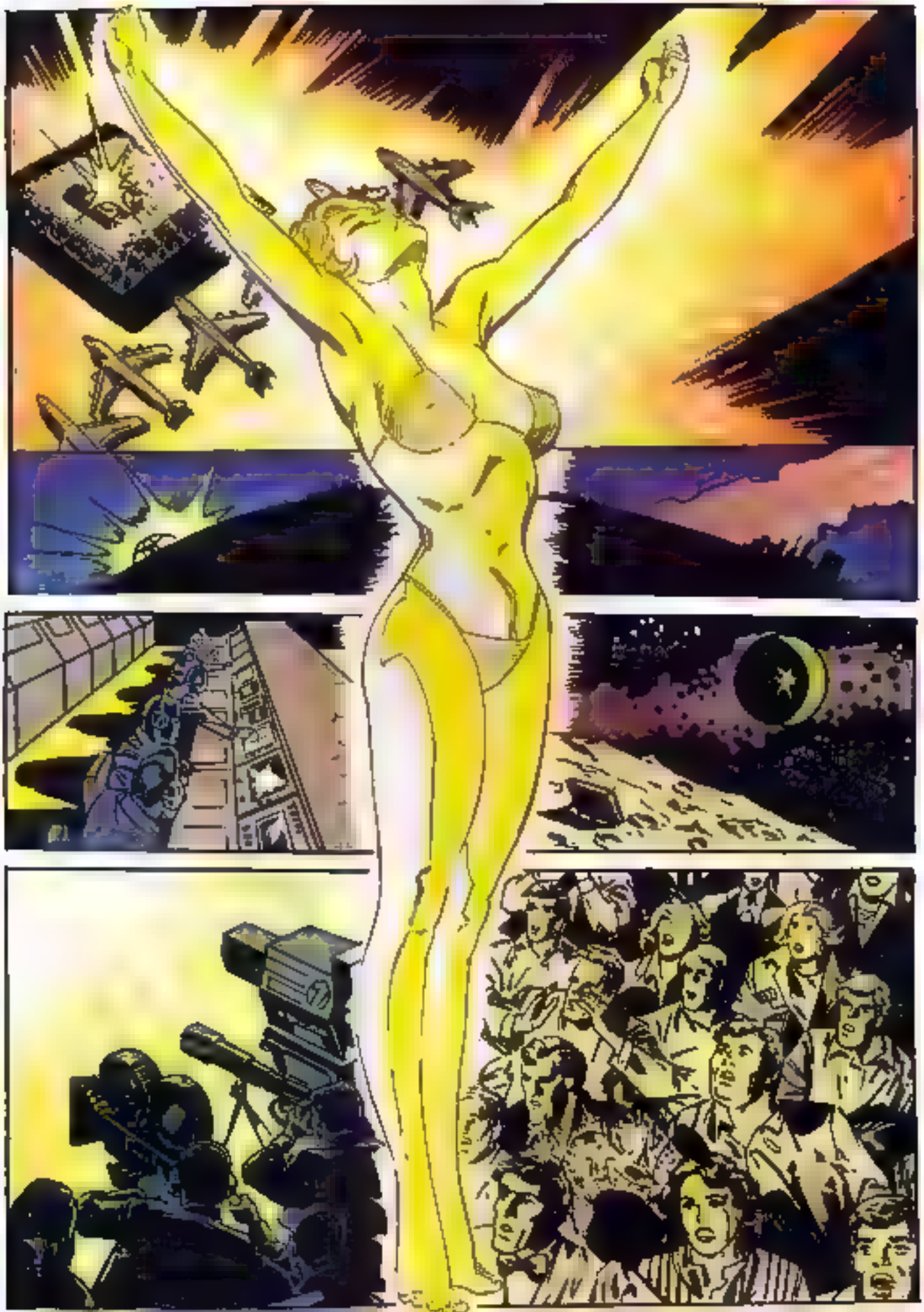
AL... SHE ON!
ROA

OH MY SOUL SHE'S GLOWING!
IT'S TRUE! SHE'S MAKING LIGHT!
NAH IT'S GOT TO BE A GIMMICK!


HE WANTS IT LOUDER! OKAY CRANK 'EM UP BOYS
RRR
RROAARR

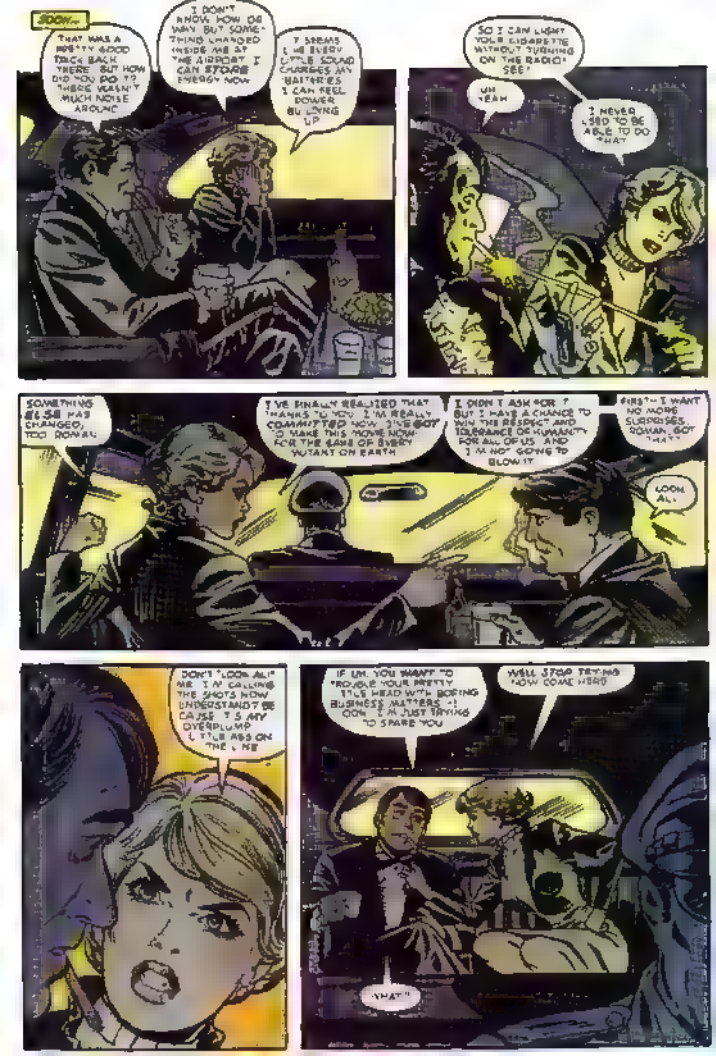
ROARR

BOMAN'S OVERDOING IT! THE NOISE IS GETTING DEAFENING.
I'VE GOT TO ABSORB MORE OF THE NOISE!
NO AMOUNT OF NOISE CAN HURT ME BUT EVERYONE ELSE IS IN PAIN!
MORE MORE!!
HEY! WHY'D THEY CUT OFF THE JETS?
SUDDENLY IT'S DEAD QUIET! IS THE WHOLE CROWD IN SHOCK?
NO! PEOPLE ARE SHOUTING AND SCREAMING... BUT THEY... THERE'S NO SOUND
SHE'S DOING TH. S...
MY GOD...



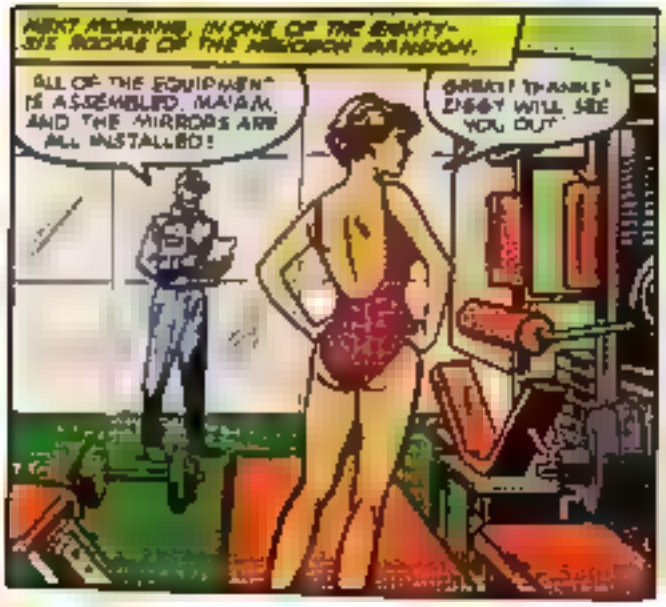
CUT THE ENGINES - IT'S OVER!
FOR A MOMENT, NEAR-SILENCE PREVAILS. THE CROWD REMAINS HUSHED WITH AWE.
I FEEL STRANGE - BUZZED SOMETHING'S WRONG. SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT INSIDE
THAT WAS A LOT OF ENERGY I HOPE I DIDN'T HURT MYSELF!
ARE YOU HAPPY NOW, ROMAN?
BOOMM--
LET ME OUT OF HERE!
IT'S REAL! IT'S TRUE!
SHE'S A MUTANT SHE COULD KILL US ALL!
RUN RUN!!
NICE WORK NEMOBOH! I'LL BE IN TOUCH!
YEAH.
THEY LOVE YA KID
THEY'RE TERRIFIED OF ME
LET'S GO

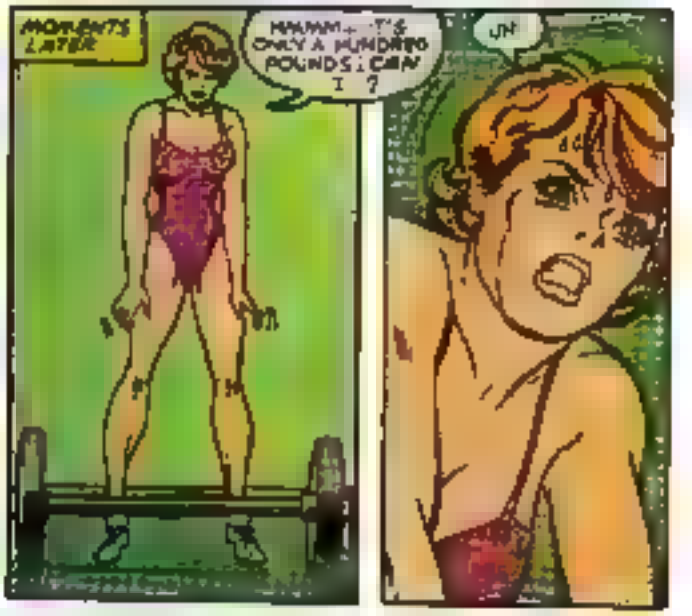
BOOM..
IT'S ALL GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN. ALL I TRUST ME! I'M GOING TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY
WHILE I GO DOWN IN FLAMES, RIGHT?
WHAT?
NOTHING
LATER OUTSIDE A CIVIC NIGHTSPOT
YOU SURE THIS IS WHERE THEY HANG OUT?
YEAH MAN I READ IT IN THE STAR
THEY'LL PROBLY BE HERE SOON!
HERE COMES ANOTHER UNCOOL GET READY JUST IN CASE
YEA THEM GET EM.
MUTIE LOVER!!
HUH?
ROMAN LOOK OUT!
CRACK
THEM SUE LOOK WHAT SHE DID TO THOSE BRICKS!!
GET BACK TO THE SEWER YOU CRAWLED OUT OF OR I'LL DO THE SAME TO YOU!
EEEYAAAH!!
ALL I
TAKE ME HOME ROMAN
WHAT?!


SOON...
THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD TRICK BACK THERE. BUT HOW DID YOU DO IT? THERE WASN'T MUCH NOISE AROUND
I DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHY BUT SOMETHING CHANGED INSIDE ME AT THE AIRPORT. I CAN STORE ENERGY NOW
IT SEEMS I'VE EVEN LITTLE SOUND CHARGES MY BATTERIES I CAN FEEL POWER BUILDING UP
SO I CAN LIGHT YOUR CIGARETTE WITHOUT TURNING ON THE RADIO! SEE?
UH YEAH
I NEVER USED TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT
SOMETHING ELSE HAS CHANGED, TOO, ROMAN.
I'VE FINALLY REALIZED THAT THANKS TO YOU, I'M REALLY COMMITTED NOW. I'VE GOT TO MAKE THIS MOVIE NOW FOR THE SAKE OF EVERY MUTANT ON EARTH
I DIDN'T ASK FOR IT BUT I HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN THE RESPECT AND TOLERANCE OF HUMANITY FOR ALL OF US AND I'M NOT GOING TO BLOW IT
FIRST— I WANT NO MORE SURPRISES, ROMAN. GOT THAT?
LOOK, AL!
DON'T "LOOK, AL" ME. I'M CALLING THE SHOTS NOW. UNDERSTAND? BECAUSE I'M MY OVERBLOWN LITTLE ASS ON THE LINE
IF UM, YOU WANT TO PROBE YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD WITH BORING BUSINESS MATTERS, I GOT TIME. JUST TRYING TO SPARE YOU
WELL STOP TRYING. NOW COME HERE!
"WHAT"!

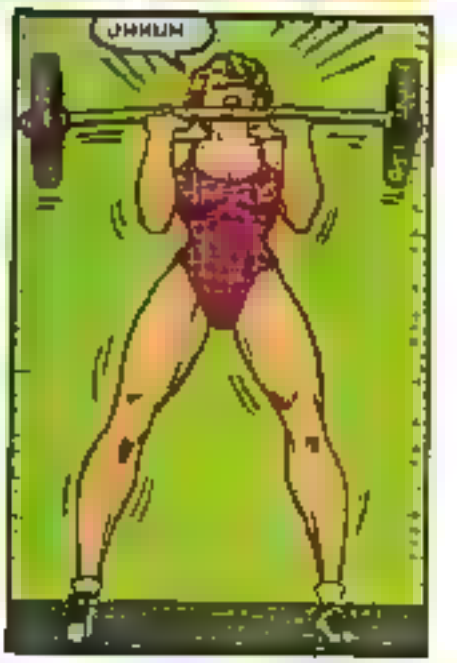
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I SAID COME HERE, BIG BOY!

I'M GOING TO HAVE MY WAY WITH YOU, MY LITTLE PRETTY! AND IF YOU FAIL TO PLEASE ME I'M GOING TO USE MY NASTY LITTLE MUTANT POWERS TO INCINERATE ALL YOUR BEST TOUPEES!


NEXT MORNING, IN ONE OF THE EIGHTY-SIX ROOMS OF THE MEGADON MANSION.
ALL OF THE EQUIPMENT IS ASSEMBLED, MA'AM, AND THE MIRRORS ARE ALL INSTALLED!
GREAT! THANKS! ZIGGY WILL SEE YOU OUT.

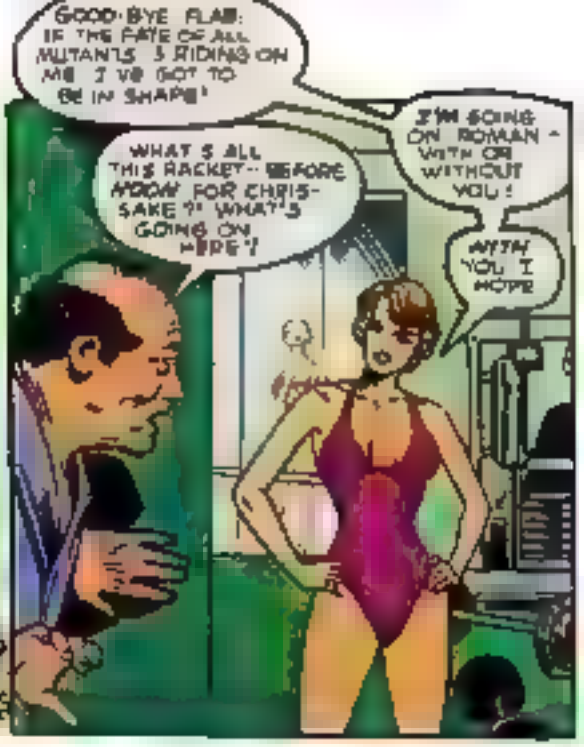

MOMENTS LATER
MMMM... IT'S ONLY A HUNDRED POUNDS; CAN I ?
UH

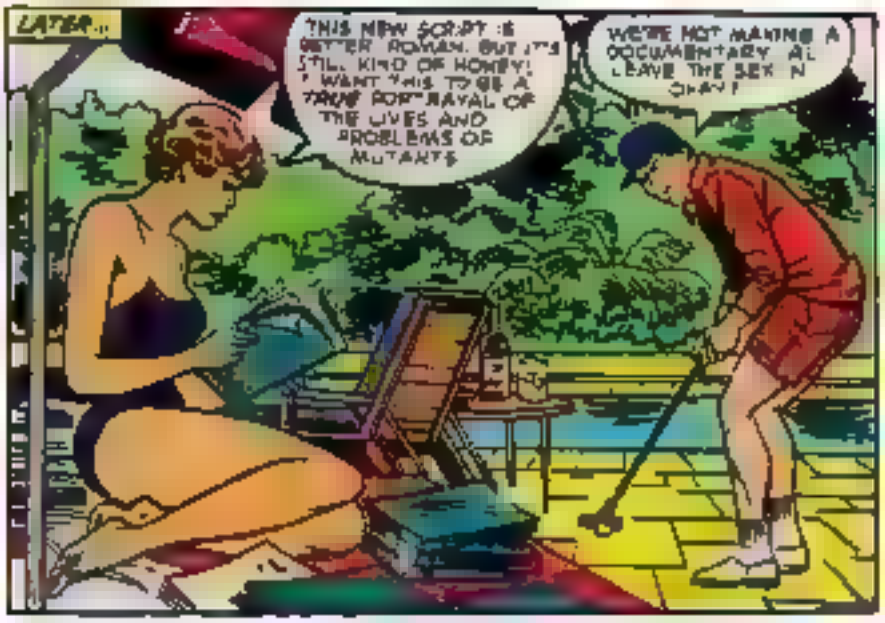
I'M GONNA TO DO THIS

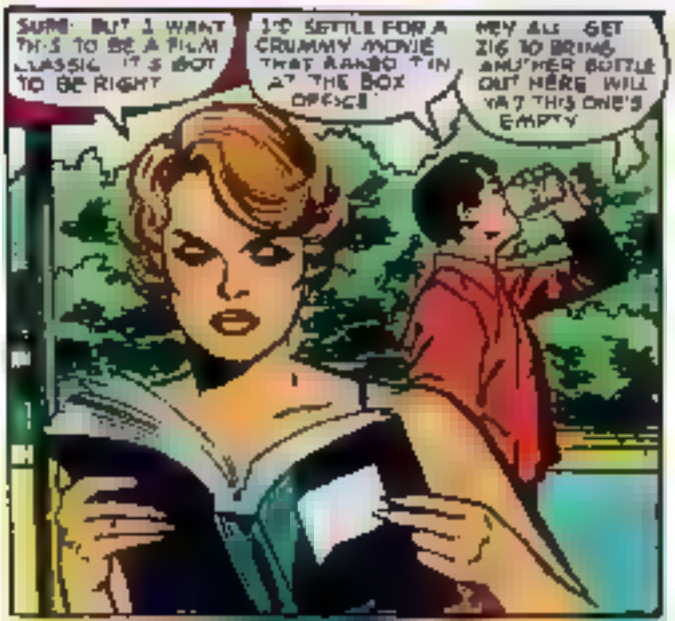

UHHUH

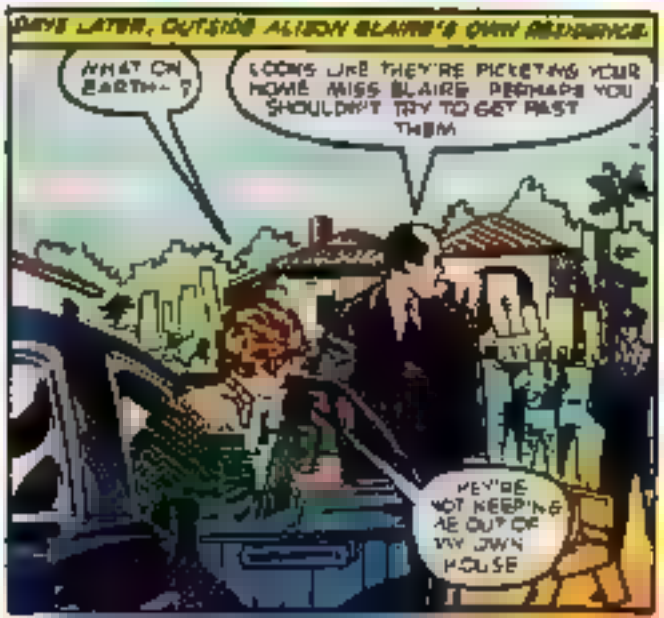
LOOK OUT LOCH-VEG!

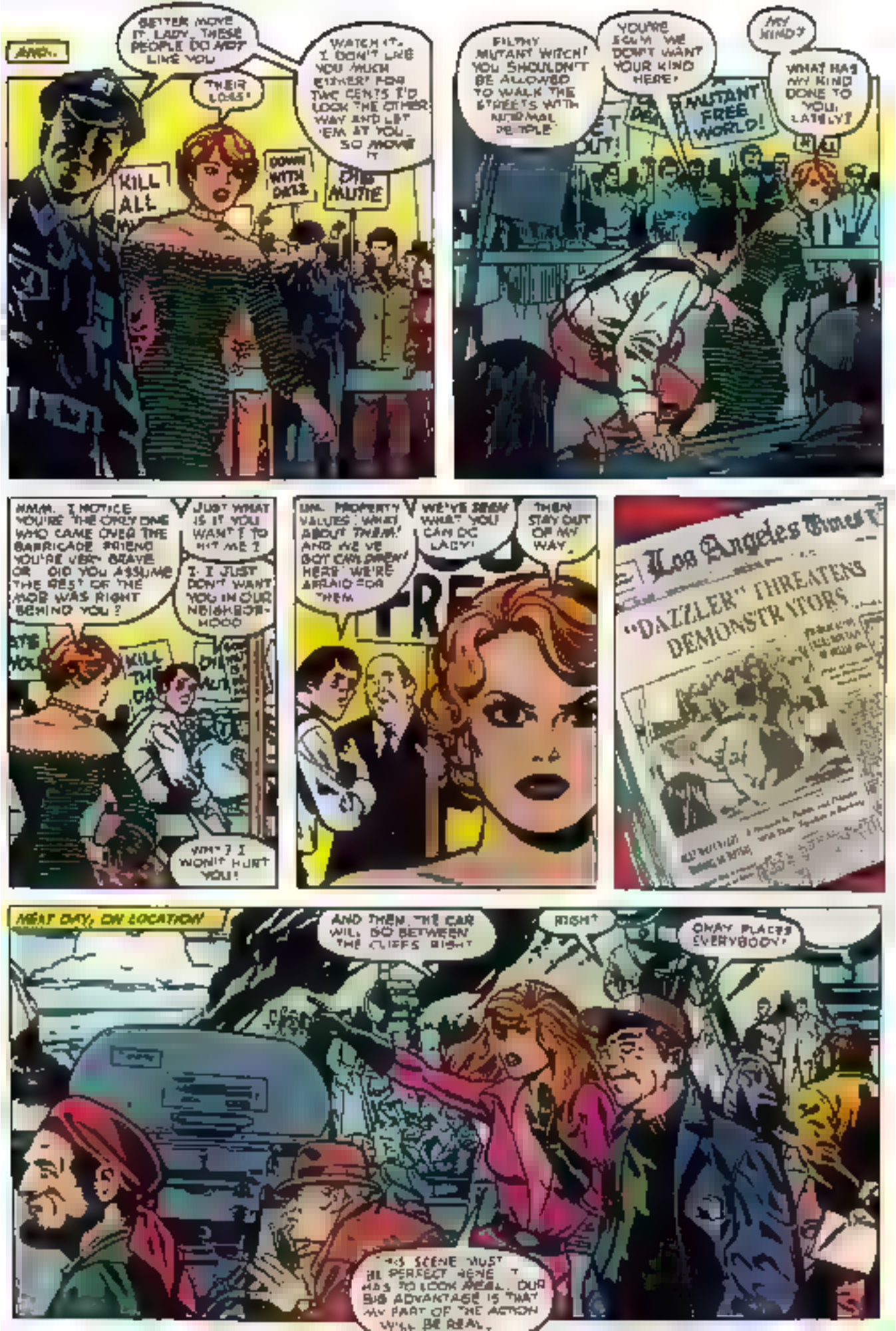
THAT'S THE FIRST STEP ON THE ROAD BACK TO BEING ME
THOOM

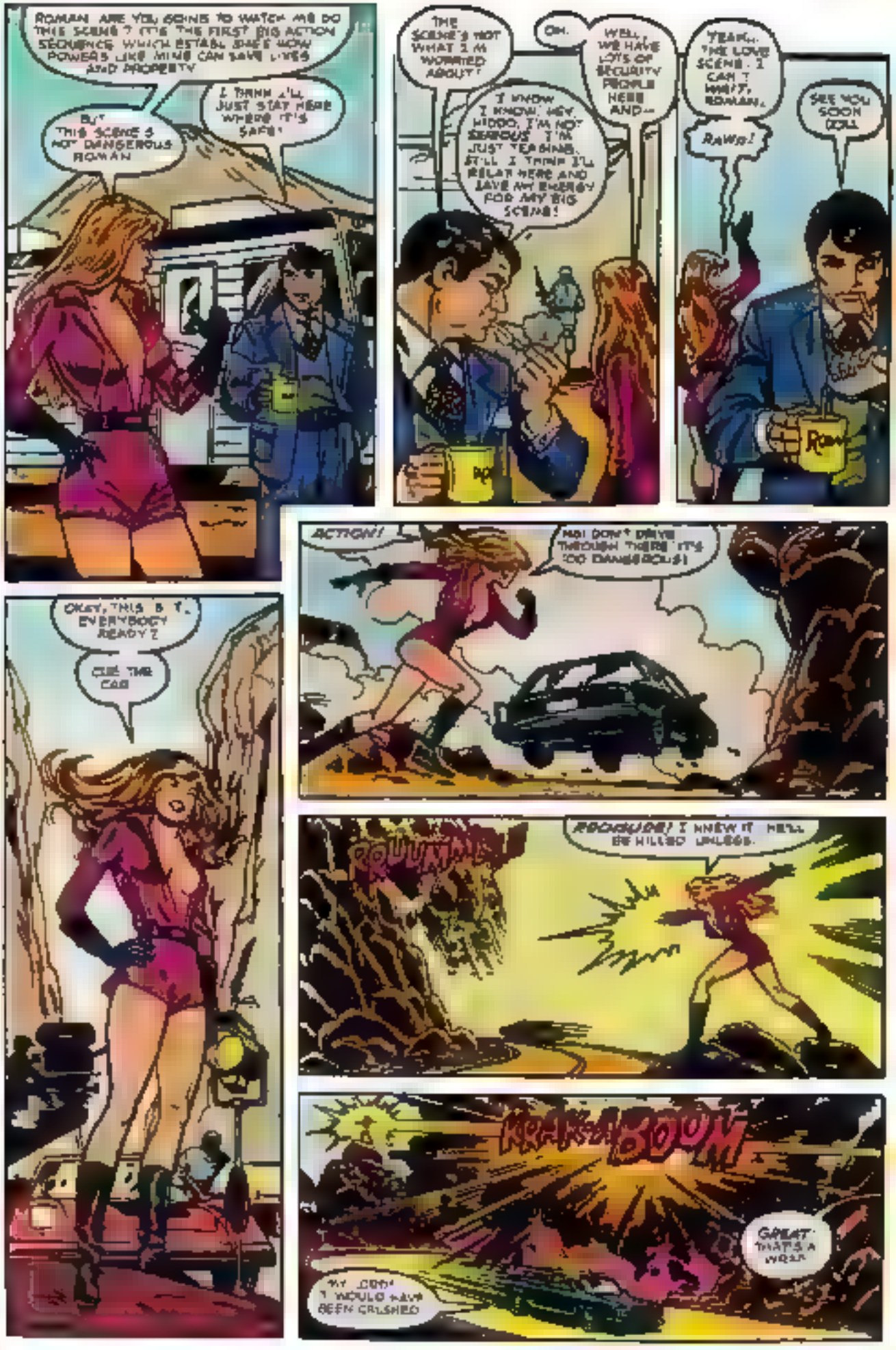

GOOD-BYE FLAB: IF THE FATE OF ALL MUTANTS IS RIDING ON ME I'VE GOT TO BE IN SHAPE!
WHAT'S ALL THIS RACKET-- BEFORE NOON FOR CHRIS-SAKE?! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
I'M GOING ON ROMAN - WITH OR WITHOUT YOU!
WITH YOU I HOPE


LATER...
THIS NEW SCRIPT IS BETTER ROMAN. BUT IT'S STILL KIND OF HONEY! I WANT THIS TO BE A TRUE PORTRAYAL OF THE LIVES AND PROBLEMS OF MUTANTS
WE'RE NOT MAKING A DOCUMENTARY AL LEAVE THE SEX IN OKAY?

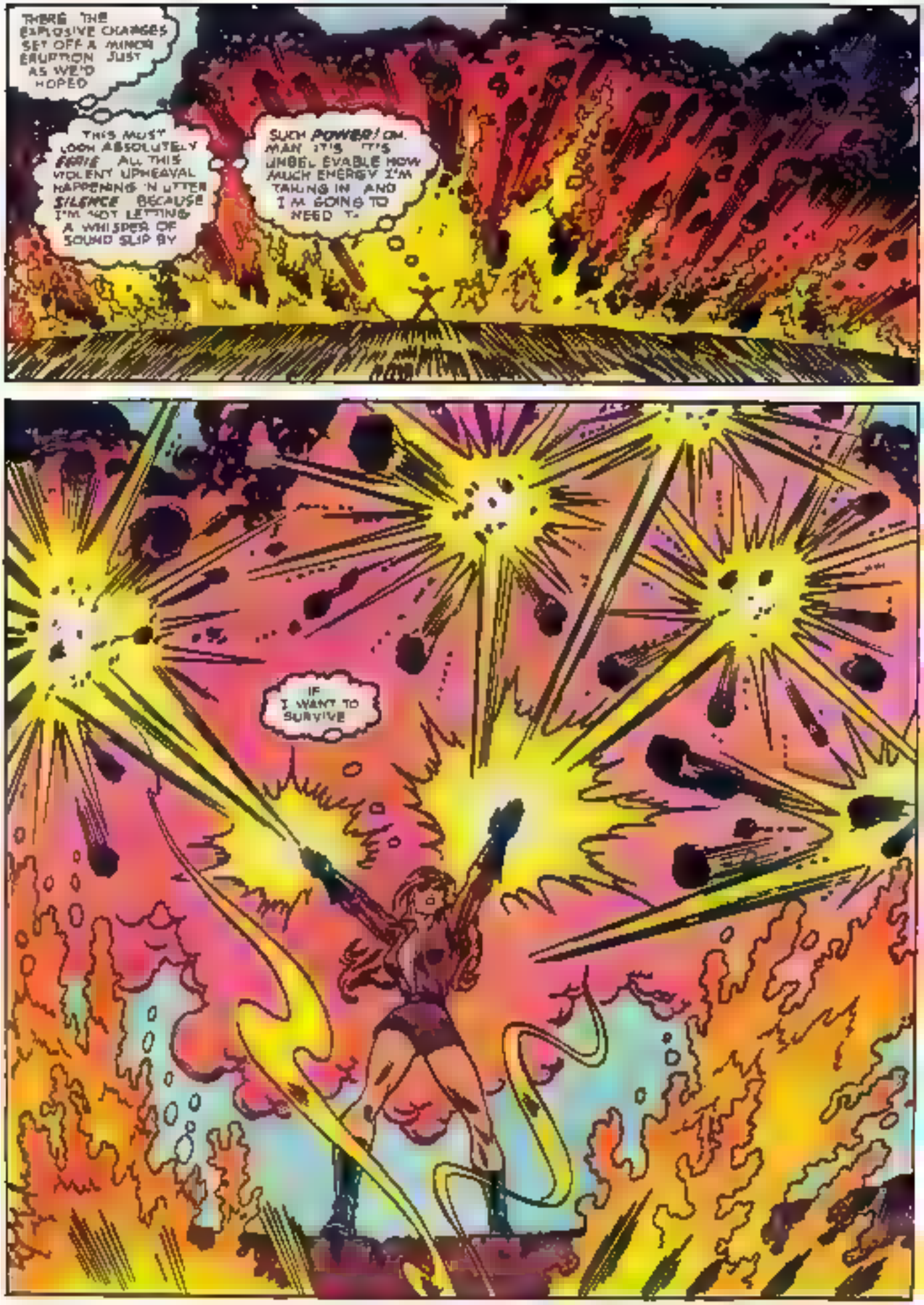

SURE! BUT I WANT THIS TO BE A FILM CLASSIC IT'S GOT TO BE RIGHT
I'D SETTLE FOR A CRUMMY MOVIE THAT RAKES IN AT THE BOX OFFICE
HEY ALL GET ZIG TO BRING ANOTHER BOTTLE OUT HERE WILL YA? THIS ONE'S EMPTY

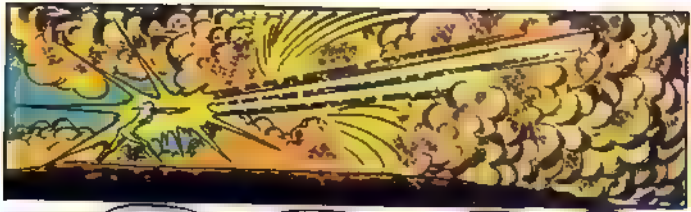

DAYS LATER, OUTSIDE ALISON BLAIRE'S OWN RESIDENCE.
WHAT ON EARTH--?
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE PICKETING YOUR HOME MISS BLAIRE PERHAPS YOU SHOULDN'T TRY TO GET PAST THEM
THEY'RE NOT KEEPING ME OUT OF MY OWN HOUSE


ARGH.
BETTER MOVE IT, LADY. THESE PEOPLE DO NOT LIKE YOU
THEIR LOSS!
WATCH IT. I DON'T LIKE YOU MUCH EITHER! FOR TWO CENTS I'D LOOK THE OTHER WAY AND LET 'EM AT YOU. SO MOVE IT
KILL ALL M
DOWN WITH DOGS
DIE MUTIE
FILTHY MUTANT WITCH! YOU SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO WALK THE STREETS WITH NORMAL PEOPLE
YOU'RE SCUM. WE DON'T WANT YOUR KIND HERE!
MY KIND?
WHAT HAS MY KIND DONE TO YOU, LATELY?
MUTANT FREE WORLD!
MMM. I NOTICE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAME OVER THE BARRICADE. FRIEND YOU'RE VERY BRAVE OR DID YOU ASSUME THE REST OF THE MOB WAS RIGHT BEHIND YOU?
JUST WHAT IS IT YOU WANT? TO HIT ME?
I- I JUST DON'T WANT YOU IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
WHY? I WON'T HURT YOU!
KILL THE DA
DIE MU
UM. PROPERTY VALUES. WHAT ABOUT THEM. AND WE'VE GOT CAMERAS! HERE. WE'RE AFRAID =DA =THEM
WE'VE SEEN WHAT YOU CAN DO LADY!
THEN STAY OUT OF MY WAY.
FIRE
Los Angeles Times
"DAZZLER" THREATENS DEMONSTRATORS
NEXT DAY, ON LOCATION
AND THEN THE CAR WILL GO BETWEEN THE CLIFFS. RIGHT?
RIGHT
OKAY, PLACES EVERYBODY!
THIS SCENE MUST BE PERFECT. SCENE 7 HAS TO LOOK REAL. OUR BIG ADVANTAGE IS THAT MY PART OF THE ACTION WILL BE REAL.

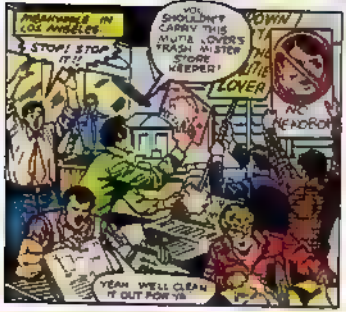

ROMAN ARE YOU GOING TO WATCH ME DO THIS SCENE? IT'S THE FIRST BIG ACTION SEQUENCE WHICH ESTABLISHES HOW POWERS LIKE MINE CAN SAVE LIVES AND PROPERTY
I THINK I'LL JUST STAY HERE WHERE IT'S SAFE!
BUT THIS SCENE'S NOT DANGEROUS ROMAN
THE SCENE'S NOT WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT!
OH.
WELL, WE HAVE LOTS OF SECURITY PEOPLE HERE AND...
I KNOW I KNOW. HEY HIDDO, I'M NOT SERIOUS I'M JUST TEASING. STILL I THINK I'LL RELAX HERE AND SAVE MY ENERGY FOR MY BIG SCENE!
YEAH... THE LOVE SCENE. I CAN'T WAIT, ROMAN.
RAWR!
SEE YOU SOON DOLL
ROM
ACTION!
HEY! DON'T DRIVE THROUGH THERE IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!
OKAY, THIS IS IT. EVERYBODY READY?
CUE THE CAR
KRAKOOOM! I KNEW IT. HE'LL BE KILLED UNLESS...
KRAKOOOM
KRAKOOOM
GREAT. THAT'S A WRAP.
MY GOD! I WOULD HAVE BEEN CRUSHED

GOOD EVENING. TWO WEEKS AGO, FILMING BEGAN ON ROMAN HERCOMBE'S LATEST MOVIE WHICH STARS ONE ALISON BLAIRE AN ADMITTED MUTANT. THE FILM IS SAID TO FOCUS ON THE PROBLEMS OF A MUTANT WHO I SUPPOSE THERE MIGHT BE SOME ANY WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING MAY TO PUT UP WITH THAT ANNOYING TICHY FLEECE
PROTESTERS, BARELY RESTRAINED BY POLICE AND HERCOMBE'S OWN HIRED THUGS, HAVE CONSISTENTLY PICKETED THE SHOOTING. THESE PEOPLE ARE AFRAID -- AND WE DON'T BLAME THEM.
KILL ANT
DIE MUTE ANT
GO HOME
MUTANTS ARE AN ENTIRELY NEW RACE, EACH MEMBER OF WHICH POSSESSES ABILITIES WHICH SEEM LIKE SCIENCE FICTION TO US NORMAL HUMANS. WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE REFER TO THEMSELVES AS HOMO SUPERIOR, THE NEXT STEP ON THE EVOLUTIONARY LADDER ABOVE HOMO SAPIENS. SOME MUTANTS HAVE MOUNTED BRUTAL ATTACKS UPON HUMANKIND, DEMONSTRATING TO MY SATISFACTION THAT THEY PLAN TO SUPPLANT US 'LOWER' CREATURES AS THE DOMINANT SPECIES ON THIS PLANET!
THE WORST THING IS THAT THESE BEINGS MAY LOOK LIKE YOU OR ME! THEY WALK AMONG US UNSUSPECTED! ONE OF OUR FRIENDS, A NEIGHBOR, PERHAPS. OR GOD FORBID, EVEN SOMEONE IN YOUR OWN FAMILY MAY BE OUT TO CARNAGE OR REARRANGE YOUR THOUGHTS -- OR LEVITATING INTO THE AIR - OR JANE ALISON BLAIRE KILLING YOU WITH JUST A WAVE OF HER HAND!
WE HERE AT WKMC BELIEVE THAT THE MUTANT MENACE IS REAL! WE SUPPORT THE PROTESTERS. IF SOMETHING ISN'T DONE ABOUT MUTANTS -- IF WE HUMANS DO NOT TAKE POSITIVE ACTION TO PROTECT OURSELVES -- THEN IT SHALL NOT BE THE MEEK WHO INHERIT THE EARTH. THAT'S OUR OPINION. WHAT'S YOURS?
ON A DESERTED ISLAND SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC
HEY ROMAN DID YOU SEE THE TAPE OF THAT WKMC TV EDITORIAL? HOO EEEE
NO SWEAT THOUGH. WHEN THIS FILM REACHES THE OLD SILVER SCREEN, IT'LL MAKE THE WHOLE COUNTRY CHANGE ITS TUNE
YEAH GUESS SURE
ESPECIALLY THIS SCENE.
YEAH UH, COULD YOU SEND SOMEBODY BACK TO THE TRAILER FOR ANOTHER BOTTLE AND SOME MORE SMOKES?
MEANWHILE...
I HOPE EVERYONE ELSE IS FAR ENOUGH AWAY TO BE SAFE. JUST IN CASE I CAN'T DO WHAT I THINK I CAN ANY SECOND NOW

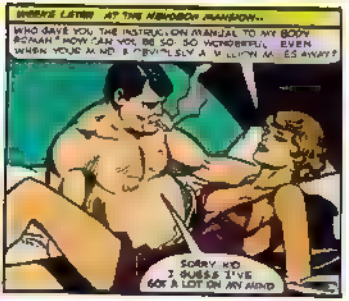

THERE THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGES SET OFF A MINOR ERUPTION JUST AS WE'D HOPED
THIS MUST LOOK ABSOLUTELY EERIE ALL THIS VIOLENT UPHEAVAL HAPPENING IN UTTER SILENCE BECAUSE I'M NOT LETTING A WHISPER OF SOUND SLIP BY
SUCH POWER! OH, MAN IT'S IT'S UNBELIEVABLE HOW MUCH ENERGY I'M TAKING IN AND I'M GOING TO NEED IT
IF I WANT TO SURVIVE

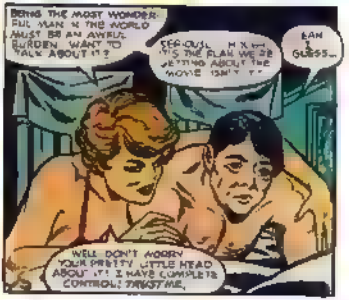


SHE'S ADDING HUGE BOULDERS TO POWDER LIKE DISINTEGRATING THEM
AWESOME! IT'S SPECTACULAR BEYOND BELIEF
IT'S SUB SIGNAL: THE ERUPTION'S SETTLING DOWN!
KEEP SHOOT NG! GET EVERY SECOND!

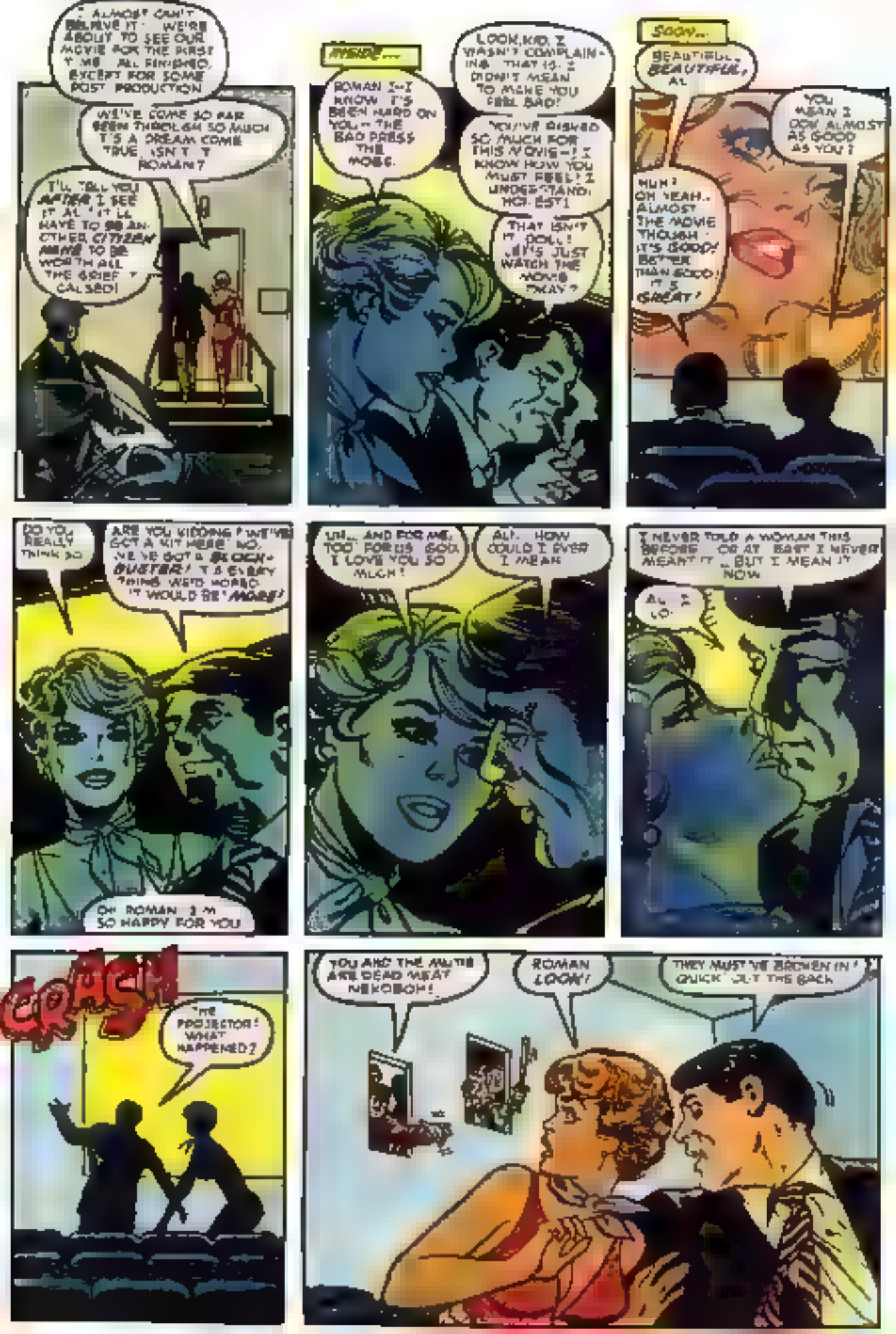

MEANWHILE IN LOS ANGELES...
STOP! STOP IT!!
YOU SHOULDN'T CARRY THIS MUCH LOVER'S TRASH, MISTER STORE KEEPER!
NO NEMOROR
YEAH, WE'LL CLEAN IT OUT FOR YA

AND ELSEWHERE...
NO! NO NEMOROR!!
NO! NO NEMOROR!!
DON'T WALK


WHERE LATER AT THE NEMOROR MANSION...
WHO GAVE YOU THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL TO MY BODY, WOMAN? HOW CAN YOU BE SO SO VICTORIOUS, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE MENTALLY A MILLION MILES AWAY?
SORRY, KID. I GUESS I'VE GOT A LOT ON MY MIND

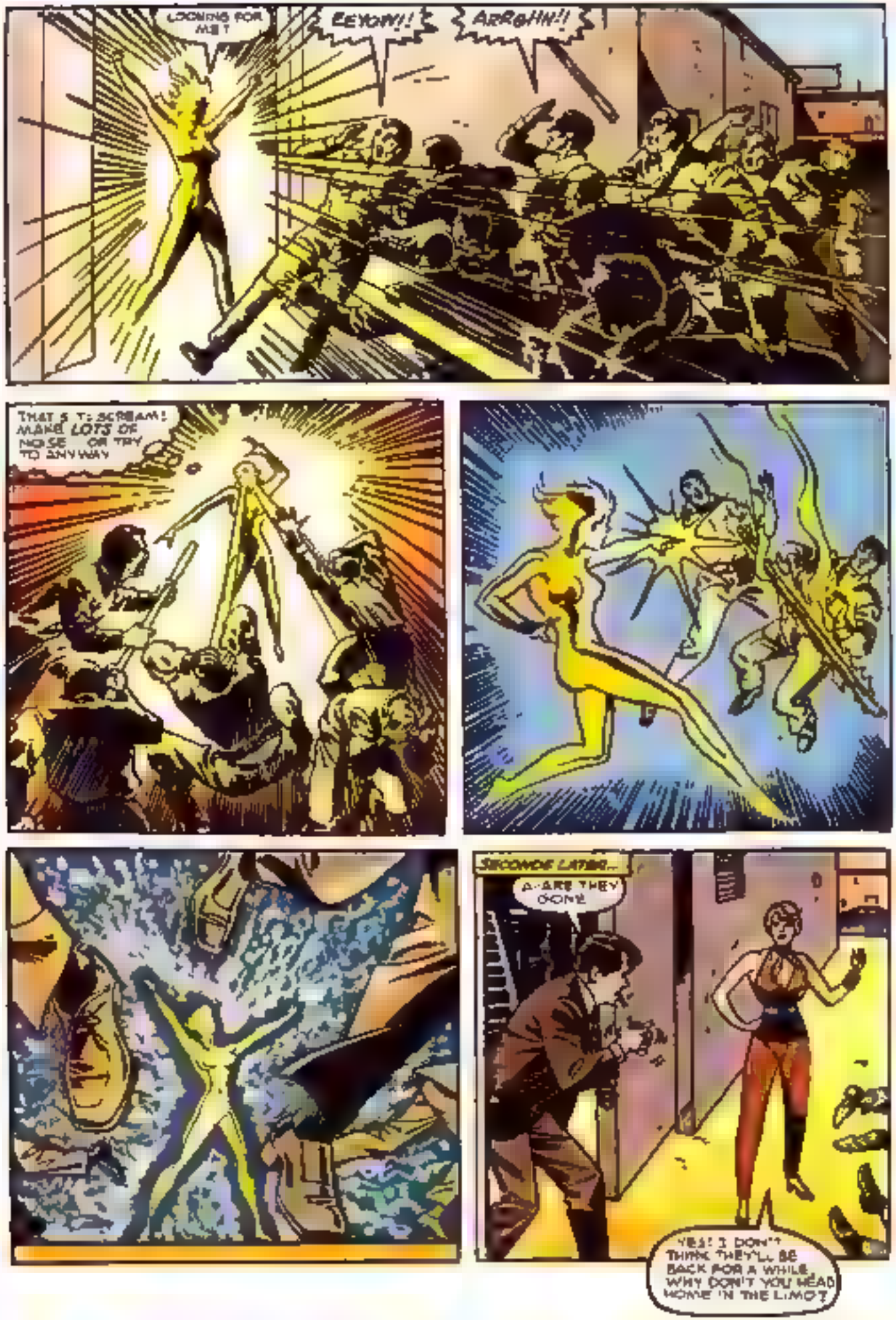

BEING THE MOST WONDERFUL MAN IN THE WORLD MUST BE AN AWFUL BURDEN. WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT?
SERIOUSLY, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GETTING ANYTHING DONE AROUND HERE!
AAH GUESS...
WELL DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT IT! I HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL! TRUST ME.

CUTE -- VERY CUTE DEJA VU
ROMAN, ALL KIDDING ASIDE -- I REALLY REALLY OVE YOU! YOU KNOW THAT?
MAKE THAT THREE REALLYS" AND WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL AND WALLET
UH-HUH
OH HOW CAN YOU BE SO DOWN? OUR FILM IS NEARLY WRAPPED! AND IT'S A LANDMARK IT'S HISTORY IN THE MAKING! ALL BECAUSE YOU'RE A VISIONARY YOU... YOU MAGNIFICENT MAN
JACKIE ROBINSON MOVE OVER!
LATER, AT ALISON'S HOUSE
MY GOD
GEEZ--! THE POLICE WEREN'T JOKING! WHOEVER BROKE IN HERE REALLY DID A NUMBER
LOOKS LIKE THEY MISSED SMASHING MY OLD MIRROR THOUGH!
I'D BETTER HAVE THE SECURITY DOUBLED AT MY PLACE
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE SOMEBODY I RECOGNIZE LOOKING BACK AT ME AGAIN!
AREN'T WE ALL AGLOW TODAY. IN SPITE OF THIS STUPID VANDALISM? NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP US RIGHT?
HELLO ZIG? HERE SOME MORE GUARDS! YES. I KNOW IT'S BEEN TOUGH TO GET ANYBODY! PAY ANYTHING! AND ZIG. MAKE SURE WE CAN TRUST 'EM OKAY?
AND, THE NEXT DAY, AS ROMAN HENDRICK'S ARMORED LIMOUSINE PULLS TO A HALT AT THE GATES OF EAGLE STUDIOS
ANOTHER MOB SOMEBODY MUST'VE LEAKED THAT WE WERE COMING HERE FOR A PRIVATE SCREENING
DON'T WORRY ROMAN, YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH BLAIRE
BEBE
STUDIOS


I ALMOST CAN'T BELIEVE IT. WE'RE ABOUT TO SEE OUR MOVIE FOR THE FIRST TIME ALL FINISHED, EXCEPT FOR SOME POST PRODUCTION
WE'VE COME SO FAR, BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH. IT'S A DREAM COME TRUE, ISN'T IT ROMAN?
I'LL TELL YOU AFTER I SEE IT, AL. IT'LL HAVE TO BE ANOTHER CITIZEN KANE TO BE WORTH ALL THE GRIEF I'VE CAUSED!
MEANWHILE...
ROMAN I--I KNOW IT'S BEEN HARD ON YOU -- THE BAD PRESS THE MOBS.
LOOK, KID, I WASN'T COMPLAINING. THAT IS, I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE YOU FEEL BAD!
YOU'VE SUFFERED SO MUCH FOR THIS MOVIE--I KNOW HOW YOU MUST FEEL! I UNDERSTAND, HONEST!
THAT ISN'T IT, DOLL! IT'S JUST WATCH THE MOVIE, OKAY?
SOON...
BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL, AL
YOU MEAN I DON'T ALMOST AS GOOD AS YOU?
HUH? OH YEAH.. ALMOST THE MOVIE THOUGH. IT'S GOOD! BETTER THAN GOOD! IT'S GREAT!
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO
ARE YOU KIDDING? WE'VE GOT A HIT HERE! NO, WE'VE GOT A BLOCKBUSTER! IT'S EVERY THING WE'D HOPED IT WOULD BE! MORE!
OH ROMAN I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU
UH... AND FOR ME, TOO. FOR US, GOD I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!
AL! HOW COULD I EVER I MEAN
I NEVER TOLD A WOMAN THIS BEFORE OR AT LEAST I NEVER MEANT IT -- BUT I MEAN IT NOW
AL, I LO-
CRASH!
THE PROJECTOR! WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU AND THE MAFIA ARE DEAD MEAT NEKOBOH!
ROMAN LOOK!
THEY MUST'VE BROKEN IN! QUICK, OUT THE BACK

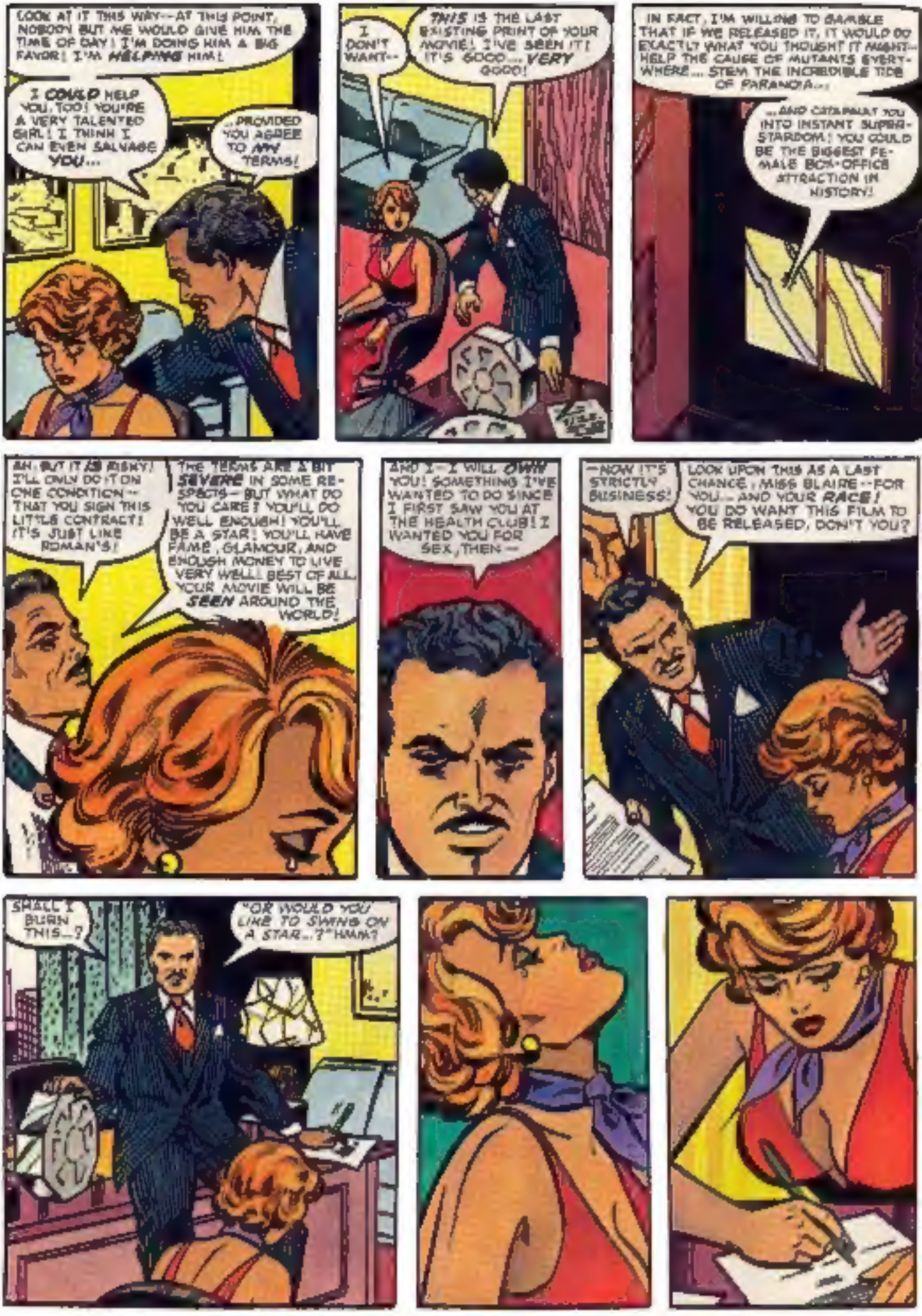
UH-OH. THEY'RE OUT HERE TOO!
THERE THEY ARE GET 'EM
WHERE ARE THE GUARDS? WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?!
NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW
WH-WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!
I DON'T KNOW! I'M NOT READY TO FIGHT THEM! I DON'T HAVE MUCH POWER IN RESERVE. I HAVEN'T BEEN ABSORBING ANY! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO NEED IT
KCHAKK
CRASH!
GET HER FIRST- BEFORE SHE CAN USE HER POWERS
QUICK THIS WAY
THEY'RE TOO CLOSE WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT UNLESS
UNLESS I BLOW THEM DOWN WITH A BLINDING FLASH!
EEYAHH!!
THEY'RE STILL COMING AND I'M DRAINED!
THIS WAY! HURRY

MAYBE WE CAN REACH THE CAR
ROMAN I HEAR THEM AGAIN THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND US
SOUND STAGE 2
IN HERE
IF ONLY I HAD AN ENERGY SOURCE A RADIO- ANYTHING!
SOME OF THEM HAVE GUNS! THEY COULD SHOOT US BEFORE I COULD SOUP UP ENOUGH OF THEIR OWN RACKET TO DRIVE THEM AWAY
THERE'S A LOUD SPEAKER ON THIS SOUND STAGE
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WORK THIS STUFF BUT MAYBE THESE SWITCHES TURN IT ON!
IS THAT THE LIGHTS ROMAN
I'M TRYING I'M TRYING.
THEY WENT IN THERE COME ON SHE CAN'T STOP ALL OF US!
WE'LL MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HER AND NEKOBOH
2
TEAR THAT DOOR OPEN
HEY THAT LIGHT


LOOKING FOR ME?
EEYOW!!
ARRGHH!!
THAT'S IT: SCREAM! MAKE LOTS OF NOISE... OR TRY TO ANYWAY
SECONDS LATER...
A-ARE THEY GONE
YES! I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE BACK FOR A WHILE. WHY DON'T YOU HEAD HOME IN THE LIMO?

OKAY! AREN'T YOU COMING?
IN A WHILE! I WANT TO CHECK INTO SOMETHING HERE FIRST
LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE STUDIO MANAGER...
ALL RIGHT I DID REMOVE THE GUARDS BUT IT WAS FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY
MISTER IT'S JUST LUCKY FOR YOU I'M NOT THE MONSTER YOU THINK I AM.
RRING
HELLO? YES. MISTER NEMOBOM, SHE'S HERE
ROMAN? WHAT IS IT? WHERE ARE YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
ALL RIGHT I'LL COME AS QUICKLY AS I CAN.—BUT WHAT'S WRONG? YOU SOUND
ROMAN? ROMAN?! STRANGE! HE HUNG UP!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF SEALE PRODUCTIONS
UM HELLO I'M ALSON BLAIRE. I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET ROMAN NEMOBOM HERE
I'M QUITE AWARE OF WHO AND WHAT YOU ARE! JUST STEP INTO MR SEALE'S OFFICE.
SO... MISS BLAIRE! WE MEET AGAIN. WHAT A PLEASURE.
WHERE IS ROMAN?
MMM. RIGHT NOW I'D IMAGINE HE'S BOARDING! HE'LL BE LEAVING TOMORROW ON AN EXTENDED VACATION ABROAD FOLLOWED BY A WORLD CONCERT TOUR.
ROMAN WOULDN'T GO AWAY WITHOUT TELLING ME!
ON THE CONTRARY MISS BLAIRE! HE IS EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU IN ANY WAY EVER AGAIN UNDER THE TERMS OF HIS NEW CONTRACT WITH SEALE PRODUCTIONS
YOU'RE LYING.

SEE FOR YOURSELF
OH MY GOD
H-HOW COULD HE!?
Roman Nekobah
HOW COULD HE NOT? THAT CONTRACT WAS HIS LAST CHANCE TO SALVAGE H'S BADLY DAMAGED CAREER. HIS LIFE!
LET ME EXPLAIN! AS YOU KNOW, I WAS FINANCING YOUR ILL FATED MOVIE. I NO LONGER CARE TO BE PARTY TO SUCH AN UNPOPULAR VENTURE. SO I'M PULLING THE PLUG ESSENTIALLY AS OF THIS AFTERNOON. OUR QUASI RELATIONSHIP IS TERMINATED! ALL COPIES OF THE FILM WILL BE DESTROYED!
BUT YOU CAN'T DO THAT! ROMAN HAS GUARANTEED ME ABSOLUTE CONTROL
YOU POOR LITTLE IDIOT! ROMAN HAS NO POWER WHATSOEVER! I WAS PULLING HIS STRINGS ALL ALONG!
DO YOU REALLY THINK ROMAN HAS THE WIT TO HAVE SUSPECTED THAT YOU WERE A MUTANT? NO! BUT I DID THOUGH. I ORDERED H M TO FIND OUT FOR CERTAIN. WHICH HE DID ADMIRABLY
THAT'S HIS ONLY TRUE GIFT — DECEIVING WOMEN. STUPID ONES. ANYWAY — WHOSE BUST MEASUREMENT EXCEEDS THEIR I Q
YOU MUST BE STUPID TO HAVE BELIEVED THAT ROMAN WOULD WILLINGLY JEOPARDIZE HIS CAREER BY REVEALING TO THE WORLD THAT HIS CO-STAR AND LOVER WAS A MUTANT!
WHY? WHY WOULD YOU DO THIS? JUST TO GET BACK AT ME BECAUSE I TURNED YOU DOWN?
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF
WHAT MY INSURANCE DOESN'T COVER $ DEDUCTIBLE. BESIDES IT'S A SMALL PRICE TO PAY TO ACQUIRE A VALUABLE PROPERTY LIKE ROMAN NEKOBAH
BUT IT COST A FORTUNE TO MAKE OUR MOVIE AND NOW
OH, IT'S TRUE THAT HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE WORTH MUCH AT THE MOMENT. BUT NOW THAT I OWN HIM AND I'M CALLING THE SHOTS. I'M CERTAIN THAT H S IMAGE CAN BE SOON RED AND REJUVENATED!


LOOK AT IT THIS WAY--AT THIS POINT, NOBODY BUT ME WOULD GIVE HIM THE TIME OF DAY! I'M DOING HIM A BIG FAVOR! I'M HELPING HIM!
I COULD HELP YOU, TOO! YOU'RE A VERY TALENTED GIRL! I THINK I CAN EVEN SALVAGE YOU...
...PROVIDED YOU AGREE TO ANY TERMS!
I DON'T WANT--
THIS IS THE LAST EXISTING PRINT OF YOUR MOVIE! I'VE SEEN IT! IT'S GOOD... VERY GOOD!
IN FACT, I'M WILLING TO GAMBLE THAT IF WE RELEASED IT, IT WOULD DO EXACTLY WHAT YOU THOUGHT IT MIGHT-- HELP THE CAUSE OF MUTANTS EVERYWHERE... STEM THE INCREDIBLE TIDE OF PARANOIA...
...AND CATAPULT YOU INTO INSTANT SUPERSTARDOM! YOU COULD BE THE BIGGEST FEMALE BOX-OFFICE ATTRACTION IN HISTORY!
AH, BUT IT IS RISKY! I'LL ONLY DO IT ON ONE CONDITION-- THAT YOU SIGN THIS LITTLE CONTRACT! IT'S JUST LIKE ROMAN'S!
THE TERMS ARE A BIT SEVERE IN SOME RESPECTS-- BUT WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU'LL DO WELL ENOUGH! YOU'LL BE A STAR! YOU'LL HAVE FAME, GLAMOUR, AND ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE VERY WELL! BEST OF ALL, YOUR MOVIE WILL BE SEEN AROUND THE WORLD!
AND I-- I WILL OWN YOU! SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO DO SINCE I FIRST SAW YOU AT THE HEALTH CLUB! I WANTED YOU FOR SEX, THEN--
--NOW IT'S STRICTLY BUSINESS!
LOOK UPON THIS AS A LAST CHANCE, MISS BLAIRE--FOR YOU-- AND YOUR RACE! YOU DO WANT THIS FILM TO BE RELEASED, DON'T YOU?
SHALL I BURN THIS--?
"OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO SWING ON A STAR..?" HMM?

AH! EXCELLENT! ONE SMALL STEP FOR A MUTANT — ONE GIANT STEP FOR MUTANT-KIND, EH? GOOD GIRL!
HA! YOU'RE SO ALTRUISTIC... SELF-SACRIFICING... TALENTED... BUILT LIKE A BRICK OUT-HOUSE, AND MINE!
WAIT A MINUTE—! THIS ISN'T—
Do much on Sat
RIGHT! AND SO EVEN YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE, LET ME EMPHASIZE IT—
—LIKE THIS!
WHAM!
OW!
THIS IS THE LAST EXISTING PRINT, HUH? WELL, MR. REALE, IT BREAKS MY HEART TO DO THIS, BUT—
WHAT ARE YOU—?! NO! NO!!
THAT FILM'S WORTH HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS!!
OH MY GOD!!
WAS WORTH...
GOODBYE, MR. POND-SCUM!
PLEASURE DOING BUSINESS WITH YOU!
♫ I'M STILL STANDIN' ♪ BETTER THAN I EVER DID ♫ LOOKIN' LIKE A ♪ TRUE SURVIVOR... ♪
BOO!!
EEEEKK!!
"... FEELIN' LIKE A ♫ ♪ LITTLE KID!" ♪ ♫

OUTSIDE...
ALI! ALI!
SCREEEEEECH!
DON'T GO AWAY I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING BUT FIRST I GOTTA TEAR UP A CONTRACT!!
HEY! SLOW DOWN!
RELAX! I BURNED IT UP ALREADY! I KNEW YOU'D WANT ME TO! AND I TOLD YOU BEFORE -- YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS!
UH ...OH... I... TH-THANKS!
LATER, AT THE MENOBOA MANSION...
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIS FACE, ROMAN!
I WISH I'D BEEN THERE! BOY, IT'S GREAT TO BE RID OF THAT SCUM!
IT WAS HELL, ALI! I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT MYSELF INTO THAT!
ONE GOOD THING -- I THE UP-FRONT MONEY FROM THE MOVIE PAID OFF MY DEBTS! I'M EVEN AGAIN!
SURE, MY CAREER'S A LITTLE SCREWED UP, BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES IN SHOW BIZ -- YOU'RE RIDIN' HIGH IN APRIL... SHOT DOWN IN MAY!
WHAT DO I CARE? I'M ROMAN MENOBOA, SHOW BIZ LEGEND! I'LL BE BACK ON TOP IN JUNE! YOU'LL SEE!
WITHOUT A DOUBT, ROMAN -- SINCE I WON'T BE HOLDING YOU BACK ANYMORE!
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DON'T GET ME WRONG, ROMAN! I STILL LOVE YOU! BUT THE WAY THE WORLD IS RIGHT NOW, I'D JUST BE AN ANCHOR WEIGHING YOU DOWN! BESIDES, I WANT TO MAKE IT ON MY OWN -- BECAUSE I DESERVE TO -- NOT RIDING ANYBODY'S COATTAILS! YOU KNOW?

YES... I DO!
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!
AND I LOVE YOU, TOO, ALI! WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL...
OH, ROMAN!
I HOPE IT ALL WORKS OUT FOR YOU, BABE — CHECK THAT — I KNOW IT WILL! I'LL BE SEEING YOUR NAME UP IN LIGHTS SOON!
AND I'LL BE SEEING YOURS AGAIN!
COUNT ON IT! SEE YOU THEN!
COUNT ON IT!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY, MISS ALISON BLAIRE!